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CONFIDENTIAL.

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

Report on Telugu Newspapers for the Month of January 1878.

*Vivekavarthani.**—The Editor in an article on the Municipality (Rajahmundry) s to bring to notice the defects of the Municipal arrangements in the following nces:—(1) The existence of brick-kilns at Innespet being a source of great omfort to those living close by, it is requested that they may be removed to remote place, where there are no dwelling-houses and less frequented by the de. (2) Complains of a large heap of cow-dung kept, for months together, a few s beyond the brick-kiln in the direction of the Old Town, the effluvia arising it endangers the lives of those living in the neighbourhood; therefore he opes that orders will be issued to discontinue placing the cow-dung on that spot, d that another place may be selected, where the contractors can place it in a heap.) States that there are between the Pettah and the Old Town a few onion gardens hich are frequented by the people for the purposes of nature, and also the sides of e gardens, the stench arising from them is sickening; in addition to this, the unicipal servants empty there the foul water brought in bandies from the drains; consequence of this practice there have been many fatal cases of cholera. Fish is old at the sides of the bazaar in the Pettah, and the smell of the dried fish spreads such a degree on all sides that the passers-by on the high road cannot pass this ad without great annoyance. Cutting and chopping the meat in the presence of e public, in the meat bazaars, which are very near to the main road is a very npleasant sight; it is earnestly requested that the above defects may speedily be emedied. (4) The roads in many places are out of repair; for instance, the road near the Tahsildar's old Cutcherry leading towards the Godavery is so bad that people walking on it hurt their feet so much that they frequently bleed, and the ights in the roads being insufficiently provided with oil, are of no use to the public, xcept those near gentlemen's residences; in some places, there are no lights at all, nd in some there are more than a sufficient number; the Municipal authorities are equested to be so good as to attend to the above remarks. (5) The smell arising from he dust-bins and the street drains, from the house of the Nalam family to the road ading to the Godavery is utterly unbearable, for between the time of removing the ubbish in the morning, and removing it again in the evening, a great accumulation f rubbish, &c., lies scattered about for hours together; it is, therefore, suggested hat the streets should be swept and cleaned at twelve o'clock midday, as well as t the other times.

2. Memorandum of newspapers examined during the month of January 878:—

Purusharthaprathaini.—	*Estimated Circulation No.*		206.
Swadharmapracasini.—	*Do.*	,,	300.
Vivekavarthani.—	*Do.*	,,	300.
Varthalahari.—	*Do.*	,,	175.

MADRAS,
1th *February* 1878.

(Signed) T. G. M. LANE, Colonel,
Telugu Translator to Government.

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* This Journal was not included in the list of newspapers forwarded on the 5th of last month; it was discontinued ar and only began to be re-issued in January this year.

Report on Malayalam Newspapers for the Month of January 1878.

Paschima Taraka and Kerala Petaka, 1st January.—A correspondent fr Ettumanur bewails the absence of a district school there, deplores the fact th endorsements on petitions addressed on the subject have not been received, remar that some people are of opinion that the non-compliance with their prayer is due the Range Inspector's reporting that there is no necessity for such a school in district, and hopes that the honest and upright Tahsildar who is now on leave on his return, take such steps as will supply the want.

2. The second letter referring to a certain festival celebrated by Sy Christians on the 2nd November last in the Roman-Catholic Church at Aranattu near Trichoor for the purification of souls, dwells upon the disagreement w prevails between Udianaparambil Jacob Katanar, of the Varapuzhe party, Kuttur Thoma Katanar, of the Goa party, who were present on the occasion. letter reports that on Jacob Katanar's insisting on the payment of some additi fee for the performance of certain rites, Thoma Katanar acted in his place fo usual consideration. Incensed at this proceeding Jacob Katanar concocted charges against his colleague before the Bishop of Varapuzhe who, without trou himself to find out the truth of the case, punished the alleged offender. T Katanar and his party thereupon joined Bishop Mellus and succeeded in dicting Jacob Katanar from doing his duties in the said Church. The writer a loss to see how the Varapuzhe Bishop is justified in punishing Thoma Ka without the concurrence of the Goa Bishop, when all the Roman-Catholic Chu in Malabar are governed by the Bishops of Varapuzhe and Goa, under the auth of their common father the Pope. The writer is also sorry that Jacob Katana entirely ignored Mathew, Chap. 27, Verse 5, and has resorted to what is sa Chap. 26, Verse 49, in taking his vengeance.

3. The third letter diffusely praises the Peruvam Sub-Magistrate, publishes a lecture on education delivered by him in one of the local schools.

4. The leading article is only a retrospect of the year 1877, and in noting principal events of the year, it dwells chiefly on the assumption of the titl "Empress of India" by Her Majesty, the famine in Southern India, the Tu Russian war, the transfer of the Dewanship of Travancore from a Brahmin Nayar, &c.

5. The second leader referring to the last Moharam gives the origin and object of the "Fast."

6. The miscellaneous items are mostly translations from the *Western Star*, contain news of the Russo-Turkish war, referring to the Columbo Harbour, de of the Malayalum Pundit at the Presidency College, the illness and death of King of Italy, &c., &c.

N.B.—The notice of the King's death shows that news is admitted into t paper of a later date than the professed date of publication.

7. *Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka, 15th January.*—The first let comments upon the unusually high eulogy passed upon the Kottayam Tahsildar one Sankunni in a previous issue, and observes that except that he is a zealous good man, there is nothing so extraordinary in him as to be worthy of so mu praise.

8. The second letter is a rejoinder which exposes the incongruity of certa statements conveyed in a previous publication relating to a Reformation Committ (among the Syrian Christians).

The allusions and references made in the letter are unintelligible to those wl do not move in the same sphere as the writer.

9. Another letter, dated from Karunagapally, reports the most unsatisfacto mode in which the administration of justice is carried out in the place, and stat that the corruption practised by the authorities knows no bounds and that t heads of offices are mere instruments in the hands of their subordinates.

10. The fourth letter which occupies fully three columns expresses ... in reading the publications contributed by

correspondents relating to a Reformation Committee. The greater part of the letter is so incoherent, as to be utterly unintelligible. The writer, perhaps, means that the reader of the paper is often surprised at the magnificent heading "Reformation Committee," and that in impatiently looking for something interesting in the columns which contain nothing but some vagaries he is equally disappointed. The letter is evidently intended to be a rebuke to the two correspondents referred to.

11. The leading article referring to the late famine in Tinnevelly, from the sufferings of which the people are not yet quite free, now brings to notice the disasters sustained by the district from the recent excessive rain-fall, and in reflecting upon the damage caused thereby notes the several buildings washed away by the flood.

12. The second leader headed the "War" is a short sketch of the rapid advance of the Russians with a reflection that, from the nature of the shameful flight of the Turks in battles, they seem to have been bribed by the Russians. The article observes that the Turkish disaster is due to the unbecoming conduct of their Pashas who caused some internal disagreement in the country by their ill-treatment of the Christians from mere motives of self-interest.

13. The miscellaneous items contain the announcement of the appointment of the Honorable H. S. Cunningham, late Advocate-General of Madras, to a Judgeship in the Calcutta High Court, report of a telegram transmitted by Her Majesty to Russia to conclude peace with Turkey, notice of the trip of the brother of the Sheriff of Mecca to India to form a secret league with the Mussalmans there, &c., &c., &c.

14. The local paragraphs report the state of the weather, prevalence of cholera, a request to open a Post-office at Kuruvápara, the extremely unsatisfactory mode of instruction given in the Sanskrit school at Trichoor, the death of one Pachu Menon, &c., &c., &c.

MADRAS, (Signed) E. THOMPSON,
1st February 1878. *Malayalam Translator to Government.*

Report on Hindustani Newspapers published in Madras during the Month of January 1878.

Tilism-i-Hairat, 15*th January*, has a picture of two men holding a pig between them and over it the words "the Black tiger or the enemy of Ali." It is an address to a Muharram "Tiger," admonishing him of the stupidity and even sinfulness of his practices, and warning him that he will have to appear in his masquerade order on the Judgment Day when he will naturally look rather foolish. From the warmth of the writer and the grossness of the abuse which he lavishes on the tiger, it may be safely inferred that the diatribe is intended for some particular "tiger" among his own acquaintances.

(All the Editors of the *Madras Urdu* papers are Sunnis, but at the season of the Muharram, they introduce a certain amount of Shia literature into their papers: such as poems in praise of Ali and his sons).

2. The *Safir-i-Madras*, 17*th January*.—In giving a copy of a letter from the captive Osman Pasha to some friend of his stating that he has been well treated by the Russians, the Editor of the *Safir-i-Madras* observes that this letter is evidently a forgery circulated by the Russians to induce other Turkish Pashas to surrender themselves as prisoners.

(Translator's Note.—Most of the accounts of the kind treatment of Osman Pasha by the Russians attribute it to some mean motive on their part, such as fear of falling themselves into the Turk's hands, &c. It would seem that the Natives of India have not yet learnt to appreciate generosity to a fallen foe. The war seems to have lost much of its interest for the Mussalman community since the fall of Plevna and the subsequent Turkish disasters: the writers sometimes feebly suggest that the collapse of the Turkish defence is due to a profound strategy; but

are evidently much dispirited by the turn that events have taken. I hear tha[t] circulation of the *Urdu* newspapers, which had greatly increased during the w[ar,] beginning to fall off: they are filled with complaints of the non-paymen[t of] subscriptions, but this is to be expected at the close of the year).

3. List of newspapers examined during the month of January 1878:—

Shams-ul-Akhbar of 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th.
Tilism-i-Hairat of 5th and 15th.
Muzhur-ul-Akhbar of 10th, 20th, and 31st.
Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi of 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th.
Jarida-i-Rozgar of 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th.
Safir-i-Madras of 7th, 17th, and 27th.

CHEPAUK,
8th February 1878.

(Signed) F. H. TYRRELL, Lieut.-Colonel,
Persian Translator to Governme[nt].

Tamil.—Nothing worthy of report in the papers published during the month.

No. 305.

Copy forwarded to the Under-Secretary of State for India, to the Governm[ent] of India in the departments noted below, and to the Private Secretary to [His] Excellency the Viceroy:—

Home.
Foreign.
Financial.
Public Works.
Military.
Legislative.
Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
21st February 1878.

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

CONFIDENTIAL.

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

Report on Telugu Newspapers for the Month of February 1878.

Purusharthaprathaini.—The Editor, in an article under the head of "Horrible murders and thefts at Masulipatam," complains that the perpetrators of the above crimes committed three years ago and of late have not been detected. A murder was committed on the night of the 11th January last, in a retired spot on the side of the high road situated to the north-west of the town (Masulipatam), the victim being a goldsmith. On the 15th of that month a ryot was robbed in the broad day-light of Rupees 500, the proceeds of the sale of his grain which he had left on the bank of a tank, when he descended into it to wash his face. A few strolling actors, who were lodging in the Macarla choultry some time ago, locked their things up in a room and went to act one night, when property worth about Rupees 200 belonging to one of the actresses was stolen. A Comati, who was a few days ago walking in a road leading to an adjacent village, with some money in his hand, to purchase lamp-oil, was waylaid and dispossessed of his property. The Editor concludes the article by stating that on account of the want of proper vigilance on the part of the Police, serious thefts as well as murders are undetected.

2. In another column the Editor complains that in spite of the continuance of the famine, which he apprehends will last throughout this year, famine relief operations are being closed.

3. Memorandum of newspapers examined during the month of February 1878:—

Purusharthaprathaini.—	*Estimated Circulation No.*	206.
Swadharmapracasini.—	*Do.*	,, 600.
Vivekavarthani.—	*Do.*	,, 300.
Varthalahari.—	*Do.*	,, 175.

MADRAS,
7th March 1878.

(Signed) T. G. M. LANE, Colonel,
Telugu Translator to Government.

Report on Malayalam Newspapers for the Month of February 1878.

Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka, 1*st February.*—The first letter severely censures the conduct of the Kottuval of Cochin Taluq (Native Cochin) which the writer describes as shockingly inhumane and mean, mentions several of his most atrocious acts, and hopes that the Dewan will adopt stringent measures to prevent the recurrence of such things in future.

2. Another letter in referring to the Chenganur festival animadverts upon the conduct of the chief local officer in granting leave for two days in the District

Vernacular School, and in allowing the school-house to be used for the preparation of fire-works for the festival.

3. The third letter is a complaint intended for the perusal of the Kollum Peshkar. It reports some damages caused to the banks of a certain canal and the consequent obstruction to the progress of cultivation to which the people of the place mainly look for their support, and therefore requests a speedy repair of the same.

4. The leading article says that there is nothing so ruinous and expensive as domestic brawls, and alludes to the Turkish disaster and the present unsatisfactory state of the Syrian Christian community at Malankara, both being results of internal disagreement.

5. The second leader head "Peace" criticises the conduct of Russia in wishing the terms to be kept secret, and expresses a fear that the conclusion of such a peace may become detrimental to the interests of England, and, in substance, appears to have been translated from some English newspaper.

6. Another article, adverting to the disputes between some Syrian Christians regarding the possession of the little church at Kottayam, publishes arguments adduced by different parties in support of their respective claims, notices the decisions passed by the local authorities on certain proceedings, and recommends the advisability of a compromise between the parties.

7. Among the local items a paragraph complains of the conduct of the Kollangode Sub-Registrar, who invariably refuses documents presented to him for registration on some pretence or other, and states that the parties are consequently put to great trouble and expense. The writer further points out the desirability of transferring Kannati and other villages to the Palghaut Sub-District, which is only a mile or two distant from those places, whereas Kollangode is by several miles further off.

8. The other paragraphs contain nothing worth reporting upon.

9. *Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka, 15th February.*—A correspondent from Etumanur in contradicting some unfavorable remarks in a previous issue on Etumanur being selected for the Kottayam Munsif's head-quarters, asserts that Etumanur is the best suited locality for the Court when the convenience of th[e] people of the three taluqs Etumanur, Minachal, and Kottayam is equally consulte[d].

10. The second letter reports the success of an efficient poison-curing stone b[y] giving three instances in which the application of the stone proved successfu[l]. Some Mahomedans bear witness to the first of those which took place at Kayan[...]kulam where a boy belonging to the six years' people was bitten by a snake a[nd] was cured by the charm of the stone; and evidence as to the other two whi[ch] happened at Venmain where two persons of the same sect were bitten by so[me] poisonous animal was given by some Hindus and Syrian Christians in the neighbo[ur]hood. The letter concludes with a jocular reference to the predictions of the s[ix] years' people, and calls upon the Editor or readers to relieve the people from th[e] doubts in which they are involved by the said predictions.

11. The third letter which takes up two columns is about the Reformat[ion] Society. It is written in an unusually obscure style, and is so incoherent as to be all but intelligible.

12. The leading article records the death of Pope Pius the 9th, and gives a short account of his life.

13. The second leader headed "War or Peace" discusses the present critic[al] state of affairs, and seems to consider war justifiable for the protection of Europea[n] interests against Russia.

14. Three columns are devoted to the third article which is written by [a] correspondent, and dwells upon the origin, progress and present healthy conditi[on] of the Church Mission Society in Travancore, and comments upon the impropri[ety] of the recent making over of two churches from the native community to t[he] European Missionaries.

15. Among the miscellaneous items one paragraph notes the Governor-General's speech about additional taxes in India, three are taken up by war news, the fifth refers to the profit from the Wynaad gold mines, and the sixth a long paragraph, is devoted to the grand reception in Travancore of its late Dewan Raja Sir T. Madava Rao.

16. The local paragraphs report the unsatisfactory proceedings of the Inspector of Post-offices in the Kottayam Division with regard to a complaint against the Tiruvella Post-master and others, detection of crimes, prevalence of small-pox, complaints of false personation, &c., &c., &c.

MADRAS,
27th February 1878.

(Signed) E. THOMPSON,
Malayalam Translator to Government.

Report on Hindustani Newspapers published at Madras during the Month of February 1878.

Shams-ul-Akhbar.—The Editor of the *Shams-ul-Akhbar* of the 4th February says that a bundle of blank receipts have been stolen from his office by some clever fellow, and begs his subscribers to be careful in examining his signature to the receipts given to them for their money. As it is possible that the stolen receipts may be presented with a forged signature.

2. *Shams-ul-Akhbar, 11th February.*—Aziz-ul-Islam writes to the paper forwarding a remittance of Rupees 515 for the Turkish Relief Fund from one Shaikh Bala, a poor man of Kooch Bahar. This Shaikh Bala had a salary of Rupees six per mensem, and used to be a small dealer also, and he had saved up some few hundred Rupees to enable him to make the pilgrimage to Mecca. When this worthy man heard of the loss of Kars and Plevna, and the misfortunes of the Khalif of Islam, his heart was sorely grieved, and it happened that on the tenth day of Moharrum he heard the preacher in the Mosque speaking of the glorious fate of martyrs, and his heart was touched, and he resolved to give all he had in the cause of the martyrs; so he went and sold his house and all that he had and added the proceeds to his savings and it amounted altogether to Rupees 515, and he sends this sum to the Editor of the *Shams-ul-Akhbar* to be transmitted to Turkey: whereby he has gained lasting fame in this world and eternal happiness in the next.

3. There are acknowledgments of other sums subscribed for the Turkish Relief Fund in various quarters (Rupees 27 from the 21st Regiment Native Infantry at Bellary).

4. A pamphlet has been published by order of the Sultan detailing the atrocities of which the Russians have been guilty in the present war, and it is being circulated with a view to showing the Mussalmans what treatment they may expect from the Russians. Two copies of this pamphlet in the English language have been forwarded to us by Hasan Habib Afandi, Turkish Consul at Bombay. Truly though tyranny and cruelty have flourished in the world in all ages, yet there were never seen such cruel ruffians as the Russians, Cossacks, and Bulgarians of the present day, and the Russians are the worst of all, they have wasted Circassia with fire and sword, have defiled the Mosques and tombs of Mussalmans, and have made many of them Christians by force. (Here follows a detailed list of Russian atrocities perpetrated during the war).

5. The year 1878 will probably be an unfortunate one for the English, for their revenues appear to be on the decline and their trade is falling off. There has been a considerable decrease in the amount of revenue under a good many heads during the past year.

6. *Shams-ul-Akhbar, 18th February* has a Map of the Sea of Marmora and its environs. The *Shams* is triumphant at its prognosticatism of danger to English interests from Russia being confirmedly the approach of Russia to the Straits.

7. The Sultan sent 1000 Liras from the money raised by subscription among the Mussalmans to Osman Pasha in captivity who supports himself with that money, and has declined to receive the allowance offered to him by the Czar. Ghazi Osman says that please God his Mussalman brethren will never allow him to depend for support on Russian charity.

8. The *Shams-ul-Akhbar, 25th February* has a black edging as a token of mourning for the death of the adopted daughter of Her Highness the Nawab Begum.

9. The *Tilism-i-Hairat, 5th February*, has a wretched scrawl representing a giant in a Fez Cap supposed to be Turkey with a sword in each hand, and one coming out of his mouth and holding two more in his toes, and five dwarfs representing Russia, Austria, Germany, Servia, and Montenegro, and for letter-press some stupid balderdash intended for political satire.

(Translator's Note.—These Hindustani papers from the month of February contain several articles prophesying the downfall of England as the result of the success of Russia. I believe the contents of these articles are mostly copied or adapted from the English Press. England is played out, the weapons of war have fallen from "her trembling hand." She is "good at talking, but bad at acting." England is a "dozing simpleton," "Lord Gladstone will put on his old coat, and make another long speech, while the Russians are besieging Constantinople," which is "the strongest and best fortified City in the world." The only panacea for the evils which afflict the world is a coalition of all the European powers against Russia. It is consoling to know that there is "inveterate enmity," (this is how the expression "critical relations" is translated) between Russia and Austria.

10. List of newspapers examined during the past month :—

Shams-ul-Akhbar of 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th.
Tilism-i-Hairat of 5th, 15th, and 25th.
Mazhur-ul-Akhbar of 10th, 20th, and 28th.
Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi of 3rd, 10th, 16th, and 24th.
Jarida-i-Rozgar of 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd.
Safir-i-Madras of 7th, 17th, and 27th.

(Signed) F. H. TYRRELL, Lieut.-Colonel,
Persian Translator to Government.

Since writing the above report I have received through the courtesy of the Editor of the *Shams-ul-Akhbar* a copy of the pamphlet on Russian atrocities referred to in his paper of the 11th February. It is a small English pamphlet of 113 pages in yellow paper covers, entitled Russian atrocities in Asia and Europe during the months of June, July, and August 1877," "Printed at Constantinople by A. H. Boyagian." It contains a collection of official and private telegrams relative to atrocities committed by Russians and their Bulgarian sympathisers upon Mussalmans.

There is a short preface stating that the pamphlet is published by the Turkish Government to open the eyes of its readers to the real designs of Russia which aim at nothing less than the total extermination of the Turkish race, but there is no signature to the preface and no official imprimatur on the book. It has been sent here by the Turkish Consul at Bombay with a request that it may be circulated among Mussalmans, doubtless with the expectation of increasing the flow of subscriptions to the Turkish Relief Fund.

(Signed) F. H. TYRRELL, Lieut.-Colonel,
Persian Translator to Government.

Tamil.—Nothing worthy of report in the papers published during the month.

No. 550.

Copy forwarded to the Under-Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India in the departments noted below, and to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy :—

Home.	Military.
Foreign.	Legislative.
Financial.	Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.
Public Works.	

FORT ST. GEORGE,
28th March 1878.

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

CONFIDENTIAL.

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

Report on Telugu Newspapers for the Month of March 1878.

Purusharthaprathaini.—A correspondent, signing himself Durvyasana Murdana or suppressor of evil practices, complains that the house of the late Gajjela Subba Rayudu Garu, at Buttayya Peta (Masulipatam), is let by his sons as a gambling place, much to the annoyance of the neighbours. These persons are afraid to bring the matter to the notice of the authorities, apprehending that the Gajjela family, who are rich and influential people, will bring them into trouble. The correspondent is of opinion that it would be better if Government were to lease out gambling houses similarly as they proceed with Abkari. He is surprised that such evil doings can go on without being noticed by Government, and wonders that the Police do not interfere to prevent such scandal. If about two months ago a murder was committed in Masulipatam, and now again another has been perpetrated there without the murderer having been detected, what can be the efficiency of the Police if such a state of affairs is allowed to continue.

2. Memorandum of newspapers examined during the month of March 1878 :—

Purusharthaprathaini.—Estimated Circulation No. 206.
Varthalahari.— *Do.* ,, 175.

MADRAS,
9th April 1878.

(Signed) GUSTAV OPPERT,
Offg. Telugu Translator to Government.

Report on Malayalam Newspapers for the Month of March 1878.

Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka, 1st March.—The first letter complains that the Trichoor school building not having been properly thatched or repaired, the students are exposed to the sun and wind, and that there is a daily decrease in the number of pupils attending, as they are afraid that their attendance therein will bring upon them fever or some other disease.

2. Another letter calls the attention of the Kollam Dewan Peshkâr to some corrupt and oppressive practices of certain officers of the Revenue and Magisterial Departments or their agents. The accusations are all of a general nature, no names or other details being given.

3. A third letter purporting to be written by a woman desires all women to be chaste, charitable, truthful, patient, and humble.

4. A fourth letter describes the return, reception, arrest, discharge, re-arrest, &c., of Bavachi Kunhi Pakki, a runaway merchant of Tellicherry notoriety.

5. The fifth letter whines over some illegal demands and practices of the employés of the Travancore Salt Department.

6. The leading article states that small-pox is raging in several parts of Travancore and carries away many, and that no vaccinators are to be found; and requests the Superintendent of the Vaccine Department to awake from his sleep and to be vigilant over his duties.

7. In another article the desirability of establishing a hospital at Arammute in Travancore is pointed out.

8. Among the miscellaneous items are paragraphs about the war, the prevalence of cholera at Tellicherry, and the supineness of the Municipal authorities, the suspicious death of a Christian woman at Mavelikara, some particulars about the telephone, &c., &c.

9. *Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka, 15th March.*—The first letter mentions some particulars of a festival at the Ettumanur temple.

10. The second letter from Kulavur, in Travancore, complains of the delay the Letter Peons are making in delivering letters arriving through the District Post.

11. The third letter is a continuation of a former letter complaining that certain Revenue Officials in Travancore instigate some persons to prefer false charges against their neighbours, with a view to extort money from the parties thereby implicated.

12. The fourth letter endeavours to refute certain remarks made in a former paper against some criticisms upon one Sankanni's poetry.

13. The leading article is apparently a translation from the Western Star, and refers to the peace concluded between Russia and Turkey, the question of passage through the Dardanelles, &c.

14. A paragraph states that the Residents of Travancore and Cochin are rapidly changed; that the new Resident Mr. Hannyngton having had an interview with the Maharajas of both countries, has betaken himself to Peremede, as if some urgent business has called him up there; that with a view to save the ignorant inhabitants from unnecessary expenses in writing petitions, the Resident would do well if he published a Notification by beat of drum that the Resident does not interfere in matters of administration; or if he should keep a number of printed forms in Malayalum containing words to the like effect. In addition to the expense incurred in drawing up petitions why, the editor asks, should the people be compelled to spend some thing more in getting a translation of the useless endorsements that are given?

15. Among the local and miscellaneous items, a paragraph states that small-pox, fever, and cheek-swelling are prevalent in Palghaut. Another paragraph from the same place says that lately five Syrian Christians charged with smuggling Opium into the Cochin territories were brought by the Police before the Cherpullasheri Sub-Magistrate, who referred the case to the Magistrate of Malabar, who discharged the accused for want of evidence; and that since that date, unlimited quantities of Opium are either clandestinely or openly carried from Palghaut to the States of Cochin and Travancore.

16. From Minachal, in Travancore, a paragraph reports a murder case; and another paragraph remarks that the dilapidated appearance of the roads and bridges in that district would lead one to believe that the officers of the Engineer's Department have bound themselves by a solemn engagement not to enter into the district.

17. A long paragraph regrets that most of the correspondents are betraying a disposition similar to that of the officers of the Revenue and Police Departments in Travancore, and wishes the correspondents would follow the unanimous concord displayed by the Courts of the State. It says that the superior officers of both Revenue and Police Departments are always looking out for an opportunity to disagree and find fault with, and plot against, their subordinates; whereas among the judicial officers the rule is invariably to concur with and support their subordinates, and that this practice is calculated to embolden the Munsifs to indulge in all sorts of illegality and corruption. But the editor merely deprecates any unreasonable disagreement among his correspondents, who, he further states, are not unanimous in their judgment as to the probable consequences of the proposed removal of the Munsif's Court from Kottayam to Ettumanur.

MADRAS,
4th April 1878.

(Signed) E. THOMPSON,
Malayalam Translator to Government.

7. Converse of Cord "and who gives from what he has, God will compensate him, for He is the best provider" "and ye will never be perfect, till you have sacrificed what ye cherish."

8. "He who doth virtuously, God will increase his blessings; he who doth good works, to him I will give increase tenfold (and some more sentiments in Arabic verse. In the four corners of the card are the four words. Faith, Country Honor, Thanks.)

9. *Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi of 10th April.*—Our just and generous Government are about to impose a new tax on the over-burdened people of India who are groaning now under a load of most oppressive taxation. A large public meeting has been convened at Calcutta to protest against the tax.

10. (All Hindustani newspapers give a prominent place to the story which has been going the round of the London papers about a Russian Grand Duke ordering some books on Indian Subjects. The *Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi* remarks). If the Russians want to get information about India, let them write to Mr. Gladstone, and he will surely procure for their information copies of all the correspondence in the India Office, for he is a great friend and well-wisher to the Russians.

11. The *Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi of the 17th March*—Has an article on the License Tax almost word for word the same as the article published in the *Shams-ul-Akhbar of the 18th.* The writer probably communicated his article to the two papers at the same time.

12. *Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi* expresses disgust at the unworthy conduct of some Editors of the Vernacular Press, which has rendered the new Vernacular Press Bill a necessity.

13. List of newspapers examined during the month of March 1878:—

Shams-ul-Akhbar of 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th.
Tilism-i-Hairat of 5th and 25th.
Mazhur-ul-Akhbar of 10th, 20th, and 31st.
Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi of 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st.
Jarida-i-Rozgar of 2nd, 9th, 11th, 23rd, and 30th.
Safir-i-Madras of 7th, 17th, and 27th.

(Signed) F. H. TYRRELL, Lieut.-Colonel,
Persian Translator to Government.

Tamil.—Nothing worthy of report in the papers published during the month.

No. 778-A.

Copy forwarded to the Under-Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India, in the departments noted below, and to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy:—

Home.	Military.
Foreign.	Legislative.
Financial.	Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.
Public Works.	

FORT ST. GEORGE,
9th May 1878.

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

CONFIDENTIAL.

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 13th April 1878.

The Suthesabimani (of the 1st April), a paper published at Salem, after praising the Government for the relief given by them to the suffering poor during the famine, goes on to say that it is hardly fair to impose all the barden of the "License Tax" on one class of people, namely, merchants and tradesmen, and especially when it is considered that the Government have, for the most part, blindly lavished great sum of money in famine, relief. Attention is drawn to the inactivity of all branches of trade during the famine, except that of trading in corn; and that after all most people are engaged in petty traffic. Why not tax the officers whose income per annum counts by tens of thousands, asks the Editor, and how is it that in Bombay where trade is carried on on a more extensive scale than in Madras the highest tax proposed to be levied is only Rupees 200 and in Madras Rupees 800? In Bombay, Poona, Calcutta, and other places, assemblies were convened and memorials forwarded to the House of Commons in remonstration of the new tax. Here a similar assembly was held only at Madras, but in other places, such as Salem and Coimbatore, the "License Tax," being now in force, is not even dreamt of by the people.

2. Alluding to the Act recently passed for controlling the publication in Oriental languages, the Editor says that the liberty of the press, which is the safe-guard of a nation, and had been so long granted to the natives, has now been denied to them. The Government, the beneficial and much to be praised Government, has in a manner departed in this instance from the promise made to the Natives in the Queen's Proclamation of 1858, when India was transferred to the Crown. The Government imputing that some Vernacular Newspapers contain matter likely to excite disaffection to them, and that they are read by large numbers of unintelligent persons, and are thus likely to excite rebellion, have passed an Act for curbing the liberty of the press which may be considered as a death blow to Native Newspapers.

3. Under "Local News" is mentioned that false measures are said to be employed by the tradespeople in Shevapett and other places.

4. *Yetharthavachani, 3rd April.*—The Poonamallee road is in a very wretched state; if the Municipality, whose expenditure is in excess of their receipts, had managed their affairs well, such complaints would not have been made.

5. A correspondent of the above paper thinks it desirable that the Municipality should remove the stones that formed the foundation of the tramway line, as they make passengers stumble and break their limbs. He suggests that the costs of removing them if the Municipality are at a loss can be met by the sale of the stones themselves.

6. Papers received and examined during the week:—

The Salem Suthesabimani of the	1st April	1878.	
The Yetharthavachani of the	3rd	do.	do.
The Dinavartamani of the	6th	do.	do.
The Vetty Codeyan of the	6th	do.	do.
The Gnanabhanu for the month of March			do.

MADRAS,
3rd May 1878.

(Signed) W. F. WRIGHT, Major,
Tamil Translator to Government.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 20th April 1878.

The Salem Suthesabhimani of the 15th April.—The Editor says that Government expend money so profusely both here and in other countries, in excess of the revenue they derive, and they tax the people in consequence of the same. If they retrench the expenditure in foreign countries, and diminish the salaries of those officers now receiving Rupees 500 a month and upwards, it would turn out to be advantageous to Government. The case of petty officers in the Mofussil is really hard. They are heavily worked and but poorly paid; and they find it difficult to maintain themselves and their family with the paltry allowances they receive. They, therefore, are driven to receive bribes and pilfer stamps. This habit is formed so early that when they are promoted to higher appointments, it still clings to them. In our Government institutions moral teaching is deficient, and the mean salaries of the subordinate officers lead them to acts inconsistent with moral rectitude. Now, who is to be pointed out as the author of these evils? The dressers and hospital assistants are not remunerated in proportion to the work they do, and we hear it was proposed that their salaries should be reduced. If this is carried into effect, the officers in the medical department will hereafter sadly lack encouragement.

2. Papers received and examined during the week:—

The Yetharthavachani (Madras) of the	10th	April 1878.
The Travancore Abhimani	do.	do.
The Vetty Codeyan (Madras)	13th	do.
The Dinavartamani (Madras)	do.	do.
The Suthesabhimani (Salem)	15th	do.
The Yetharthavachani (Madras)	17th	do.

MADRAS, (Signed) W. F. WRIGHT, Major,
6th May 1878. *Tamil Translator to Government.*

Report on Telugu Newspapers for the month of April 1878.

During this month were received the following Telugu papers, *Vivekavardhani Vartalahari Purusharthapradaini* and *Svadharmaprakasina*, all of which contained nothing of importance, except the *Vivekavardhani.*

The Editor of the *Vivekavardhani* complains in an article on "the Municipal Commissioners of Rajahmundry and the expenses they incur," that the sanitary arrangements in that town are not properly carried out owing to the negligence of some of the present Commissioners. It is stated that one of the Commissioners, a Mahommedan, is inefficient as he is ignorant of English and Telugu. If Mahommedans have the preference to the post, then Shaik-Emam Sahib, the 2nd clerk of the Civil Court, or Mahommed Fajullullah Sahib, Head Master of the Innespett School, would be proper persons. That more than one person of the same street should be appointed to the office of Commissioner is deemed objectionable. The Sanitary Inspector, on a salary of Rupees 30 per month, does not pay attention to the cleaning of dustbins; the Maistry on a salary of Rupees 15 a month does only work three months a year, his work being mostly confined to the repair of roads. It is, therefore, suggested that the above appointments may be abolished and the money thus saved may be used for a better purpose. In this case the town should be divided into certain divisions and the sanitary work of each division should be entrusted to its Commissioner.

2. The Municipal Commissioners have the practice of digging holes at the outskirts of the town in order to fill them afterwards with night soil, but they do not secure those holes by fences. The consequence is, that cattle often fall into them and die. The Commissioners have been made acquainted already with this matter, but they have not interfered as yet. The Editor hopes that this article will induce the Commissioners to surround those holes in future with fences, so that the life of cattle may not be unnecessarily endangered.

3. In another column the Editor observes that a card sharper is going on cheating the people in a public road of the town, and that even school-boys and laborers have been victimised by him. The Police do not seem to take any steps to interfere with the rogue. The Tahsildar should, therefore, immediately expel this bad individual from the town.

5. Memorandum of Newspapers examined during the month of April 1878:—

Purusharthapradaini.—*Estimated Circulation*	*No.*	206.
Sradharmaprakasini.—	*Do.*	,,	300.
Vevekavardhani.—	*Do.*	,,	300.
Varthalahari.—	*Do.*	,,	175.

MADRAS,
8th May 1878.

(Signed) GUSTAV OPPERT,
Offg. Telugu Translator to Government.

From E. THOMPSON, Esq., M.A., Malayalam Translator to Government, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Madras, dated 23rd May 1878, No. 47.

I have the honor to inform you that no copy of the *Paschima Taraka* and *Kerala Pataka* (the only Vernacular Newspaper on which I have to report) has been received since the issue of the 15th March. I have written to the Editor for an explanation, but have received no reply, and therefore infer that the paper has been discontinued.

Report on Hindustani Newspapers published at Madras during the Month of April 1878.

Shams-ul-Akhbar, 1st April.—An article on Cawnpore and the License Tax, taken apparently from some Urdu paper of the north of India, but no authority is given. It says the people of Cawnpore have been made disaffected by this Tax. When they heard that it was projected, they convened a public meeting at which it was unanimously proposed to present a remonstrance against the Tax: they sent a telegraph to the Government asking that the introduction of the measure might be delayed until the receipt of their petition. No notice was taken of the telegram, and the Bill was passed. Lord Lytton is as clay in the hands of the potters: his Councillors, Strachey and others, mould him to suit their own purposes. The Press is gagged to suppress the complaints of the people. God knows what the end of all this will be. The Government means well, but does badly. They want to benefit the people, but they only succeed in injuring them.

2. *Shams-ul-Akhbar, 29th April.*—We have heard by the last Post from a Constantinople correspondent that the badge of an honorable order is on its way to us from the Porte; we are, indeed, fortunate at being thus selected as the recipients of a badge which any and every Mussalman might be proud to wear. We expect that it will be the decoration of the Majidia similar to that which has been lately sent by the Sultan to His Excellency Sir Salar Jung: we congratulate the Mussalman Community of Madras on this honor to be conferred on them through us their humble representative.

(Translator's Note.—This Editor, who expects the decoration of the Majidia, was until lately a clerk in the Madras Railway Company's service of Rupees 40 a-month. He may have earned the distinction by his services in collecting subscriptions for the Turkish Relief Fund, but half the total sum sent from Madras was subscribed by the liberality of one individual Haji Padshah, merchant of Triplicane.)

3. *The Tilism-i-Hairat, of the 5th April,* contains a translation of the Vernacular Press Act, without any remarks on it.

4. *The Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi*, of *7th April* contains a long notice translated from the *Dur-ul-Khilafa*, a Persian newspaper, published at Constantinople, calling for increased subscriptions from India to the Turkish Relief Fund. The writer narrates the misery of the refugees from Bulgaria and Roumalia, and says that not only has the Porte now lost the Bulgarian revenue, but it gets next to no revenue from its remaining provinces on account of the disorganisation they have been plunged into by the absence of all the able-bodied men with the Army. At the same time, the expenses of the treasury have been doubled by the war. If every single Mussalman in India were to subscribe each one rupee that would make a sum of six million sterling, which would be most useful at the present crisis. Instructions are added for remitting money. Remitters of smaller sums are advised to send them in currency notes of the Indian Government. Large sums may be sent through a bank, notice being given by telegraph.

5. *The Jarida-i-Rozgar*, of *6th April*, in giving the translation of the Vernacular Press Act criticises it at great length—observes that the exigencies of the common wealth caused Lord Canning to introduce a gagging Act at the time of the mutiny, but that Act applied impartially to the English as well as to the Vernacular Press. Most of the English papers published in India condemn the Act as an unnecessary exercise of arbitrary power. The Act is one of the blessings promised by the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi. Sir Alexander Arbuthnot introduced the measure in a long and broad speech. The Act was unnecessary, as the offences it is designed to prevent were punishable under the provisions of the Penal Code. There appear to have been some grounds for the introduction of the Act into some parts of India, the Province of Bengal for instance, but the Madras Vernacular Press has always been distinguished, and will continue to be distinguished by its loyalty to the Government. A Circular has been issued by the Government of the North-West Provinces enjoining on Police Magistrates and others attention to the contents of the Vernacular newspapers. We are happy to say that no such steps have been taken, nor will be taken in this Presidency, for they are not necessary. Sir A. Arbuthnot bore testimony in his speech to the loyal character of the Madras Vernacular Press,—a character that it will always continue to deserve.

6. List of newspapers examined during the month of April 1878:—

Shams-ul-Akhbar of 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th.
Tilism-i-Hairat of 5th, 15th, and 25th.
Mazhur-ul-Akhbar of 10th, 20th, and 30th.
Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi of 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th.
Jarida-i-Rozgar of 6th, 13th, 20th, and 29th.
Safir-i-Madras of 7th, 17th, and 27th.

(Signed) F. H. TYRRELL, Lieut.-Colonel,
Persian Translator to Government.

No. 905-A.

Copy forwarded to the Under-Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India in the departments noted below, and to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy:—

Home.
Foreign.
Financial.
Public Works.
Military.
Legislative.
Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
3rd June 1878.

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

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CONFIDENTIAL.

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 4th May 1878.

The Travancore Abhimani of the 1*st May* thinks that the mediation of Germany to bring about a pacific termination is desirable, but her views are open to suspicion as we learn by telegram. But in the event of war breaking out, it is dangerous to delay it, inasmuch as the Russians will have ample time to strengthen themselves against the English.

2. *The Suthesabimani,* 1*st May,* published at Salem.—The Editor, first giving the scale of the tax on trades, &c., points out that the Collectors of districts are empowered to levy it. The Collectors, therefore, will require the assistance of their subordinates, and who is to guarantee that these subordinates will exercise their functions honestly? In this country some tradesmen don't keep accounts, and it is difficult to calculate the annual income of potters and other petty dealers. Thus there will be room for committing mistakes and occasioning grave irregularities. The Editor finally proposes that it would be better for the people if Government would tax the traders and merchants according to the extent of population and trade in their localities. He takes, as an instance, the town of Salem which contains more people and carries on more extensive trade than the adjoining one of Namkul. If the cotton-dealers be taxed annually one rupee, the cloth merchants eight annas, and other petty dealers four annas in town of Salem, those carrying on the same description of trade in Namkul may be taxed annas eight, four, and one, respectively. The income of Government is derived from the subjects, but if Government uses a little discretion in levying taxes, it would confer great blessings upon the latter and heap praises upon its own.

The inhabitants, the Editor continues, are loud in their complaints against the new license-tax, which taxes even petty traders, but excludes Governors, Secretaries, Barristers, &c., from the same taxation. That our wise and virtuous Government will take this into their deep consideration is the hearty prayer of the Editor.

3. *The Yetharthavasani of the* 1*st May* cannot but find matter for praise in the institution of the Lying-in-Hospital. It no doubt produces incalculable advantages to the poor people, but if separate apartments are allotted to caste Hindus, the benefit conferred would be still greater.

4. Papers received and examined during the week :—

The Vetty Codeyon (Madras) of 27th April 1878.
The Dinavartamani (Madras) do. do.
The Yetharthavasani (Madras) of 1st May do.
The Satthiavarttamani (Pasumalai) do.
The Travancore Abhimani do.
The Suthesabhimani (Salem) do.

MADRAS,
13*th May* 1878.

(Signed) W. F. WRIGHT, Major,
Tamil Translator to Government.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 18th May 1878.

Yetharthavasani of the 15th May.—The Editor mentions that a friend of his residing at Royapuram bought three half anna stamps, and affixing two (which was sufficient postage) upon the cover of his letter of application for some vacant post to the head of an Office put one inside to insure reply. The servants of the Post-office where he bought the stamps were witnesses to this. When this letter was presented to the officer addressed, a fee of eight annas was also demanded of him on account of the said enclosure of one half anna stamp; but he refused to accept the letter. It was then brought back to the owner, and the same fee was demanded of him. If this was done in accordance with Post-office rules, the people are prevented from receiving any reply from strangers in answer to their letters. It is, therefore, desirable that some provisions must be made to avoid such inconvenience.

2. Papers received and examined during the week under report:—

The Travancore Abhimani of 10th May.
The Dinavartamani (Madras) of 11th May.
The Yetharthavasani (Madras) of 15th May.

MADRAS,
21*st May* 1878.

(Signed) W. F. WRIGHT, Major,
Tamil Translator to Government.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 25th May 1878.

The editorial of the *Salem Suthesabimani* of the 15th May says that if the Police within Municipal limits be paid out of the Municipal Funds of Salem from 1879 (as enacted recently), they cannot well bear the new expenditure. The roads and school-houses in Salem are sadly in want of repairs or being commenced are left as they are on account of the low state of the finances. The schoolmasters also are not paid regularly every month. The charges incurred on account of the Police, the Editor suggests, should be paid from other revenues than Municipal.

2. *The Yetharthavasani*, 22*nd May.*—The Editor, after commending the English way of treating diseases, would, at the same time, desire Government to take measures to diminish native quackery.

3. Papers received and examined during the week under report:—

The Suthesabimani (Salem), 15th May 1878.
The Sathiavarttamani (Pasumalai), do.
The Dinavartamani (Madras), 18th do.
The Travancore Abhimani, 20th do.
The Yetharthavasani (Madras), 22nd May 1878.

MADRAS,
27*th May* 1878.

(Signed) W. F. WRIGHT, Major,
Tamil Translator to Government.

Report on Telugu Newspapers for the month of May 1878.

During this month were received the following Telugu papers:—*Vivekavardhani*, April 1878; *Vartalahari*, May 1st and 17th, 1878; *Purusharthapradaini*, April 1878, and *Svadharmaprakasini* of the month of Palguna in the Isvara year. The latter two papers contained nothing of importance. In the *Vivekavardhani* 1 the Editor in an article on "morality" states that in all our schools Arithmetic, classics, and other sciences are taught, but that no moral instruction is given. This is to be deplored, as moral training is necessary for the future good behaviour of students. This omission of moral teaching in schools seems to produce evil consequences. To it may be ascribed that bribery and corruption are prevailing

among Government servants who have merely passed the usual tests, but who have not participated in any moral instruction. The writer hopes that Government will in future provide for moral education in schools.

2. The Editor in an English article against the Acting District Munsiff of Rajahmundry complains of the rapid manner in which the latter disposes of his work. "In violation of the long standing orders and rules of practice he takes up the trial of not less than two cases simultaneously. He directs his attention to one case before him and entrusts a Gumastah with the conduct of the second case. He disposes of cases not according to the rules prescribed, but as he wills. Another circumstance that we may note down here is the way in which judgments are pronounced and dated. They say that long after the cases were heard reserving judgments, he would one day deliver them, putting a previous date. The bench of the Court is not used, as he holds Court in the room or hall sitting on a bed spread on the floor." These are the expressions used by the Editor who wishes to direct the attention of the higher authorities to the behaviour of the Munsiff.

3. *Vartalahari.*—The Editor in an article on the Berhampore Municipality states that the ponds, tanks, and wells in that town are dried up and proposes to the Vice-President and the Commissioners to deepen those existing and to sink new wells. Works of this kind are urgently required. Cholera and other diseases are prevalent, especially in consequence of the scarcity of cereals. The Commissioners ought to look carefully into the matter and devise some means of relief.

4. Memorandum of Newspapers examined during the month of May 1878 :—

Purusharthapradaini.—*Estimated Circulation*	*No.*	206.
Svadharmaprakasini.—	*Do.*	„	300.
Vevekavardhani.—	*Do.*	„	300.
Varthalahari.—	*Do.*	„	175.

MADRAS,
7th June 1878.

(Signed) GUSTAV OPPERT, PH.D.,
Offg. Telugu Translator to Government.

Report on Hindustani Newspapers published at Madras during the Month of May 1878.

Issues of the *Shams-ul-Akhbar* do not contain any article of original matter.

2. *Jarida-i-Rozgar of 25th May* contains an article of some merit on the relative strength of England and Russia, and decides in favor of the former also another as to the feeling between Turkey and England, and states that in the event of a European war Turkey would throw in her lot with England.

3. Not any of the papers published during the month of May call for any special remark; they all more or less are simply translations of European papers; they all speak of the Czar and the Russians in very unfavorable terms.

4. List of Hindustani newspapers published at Madras during the month of May 1878 :—

Shams-ul-Akhbar of 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th.
Jarida-i-Rozgar of 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th.
Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi of 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th.
Mazhur-ul-Akhbar of 10th, 20th, and 31st.
Tilism-i-Hairat of 5th, 15th, and 25th.
Safir-i-Madras of 7th, 17th, and 27th.

(Signed) C. D. BAYNES, Major,
Persian and Hindustani
Translator to Government.

No. .

Copy forwarded to the Under-Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India in the departments noted below, and to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy :—

Home.	Military.
Foreign.	Legislative.
Financial.	Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.
Public Works.	

FORT ST. GEORGE,
3rd July 1878.

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

CONFIDENTIAL.

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 8*th June* 1878.

The Editor of the *Salem Suthasabimani* (1st June) complains loudly against the local Police. He says that he had repeatedly pointed out the irregularities and insecurity arising from their negligence, and that he had even sent the number containing them to the Superintendent of Police. But it does not appear that the Superintendent gave any attention to this. A dacoity was committed a short time ago in a forest near Ayodia, belonging to a cloth-merchant in Salem. The same act was perpetrated once more in the same place, and the Editor has now published a letter from the merchant giving the details of the robbery. On the representation of the merchant to Mr. Hayman, the Inspector of Police at Salem, a search was instituted and six persons arrested. Three were liberated on the following morning without any reason, and the rest were dismissed after being tried by Mr. Kallier, Magistrate of the 2nd Class. The cloth merchant has in the end (of his letter) requested the Editor to forward copies of the present number to the Collector of Salem, the Police Inspector, and the Inspector-General of Police.

2. *Vetticodiyon* of the 1st June devotes a large space for describing the beneficial results brought on by the English Government. The Editor says that on reading an English Newspaper he found that the views expressed in it coincided with his own; and in consequence he says he was emboldened to publish them. The Editor observes that the English paper speaks in high terms of Government, but he remarks that it is quite natural for an Englishman to speak highly of English Government. This country has reaped numerous benefits from British rule; among them may be enumerated the security of life and property, the flourishing condition of trade, the wide, spread of education, and, lastly, the free will of the subject. There is room, however, for complaint against increased taxation, which is at times felt as heavy by the tradesmen. But if it is thought that the Hindus have no understanding of the excellence of the English rule, it arises simply from mistaken prejudice. If even educated natives are discontented with it, the reason (they think) lies in this, viz., that words correspond to deeds only as regards Englishmen but no further. If it is said that Suttee and Thuggee have been suppressed and that such a district Police is very useful, what consolation will it be to a person already groaning under increased taxation. The (alleged) dissatisfaction of even educated natives may be said to spring from the following cause :— The English having taught the people to think, forbid them in the exercise of their thought. Under Native dominion, some were ministers and leaders of armies and others household physicians, collectors, rich landed proprietors, and the like. But under English rule, what have the people to expect but a few paltry Deputy Collectorships? In the Madras Presidency we know only of four native gentlemen who have attained high positions. Out of them no less than three persons are serving in Native States. They are, to wit, Sir Madava Row, Shashia Sastri, and Ragoonada Rayer. The Honorable Ramiengar alone fills an important place under British Government. Out of thirty millions of people, one alone is found who is honored with the title of C.S.I., together with a seat in the Legislative Council.

3. Papers received and examined during the week under report :—

The Sudasabhimany (Salem) of the 1st June.
The Abhimani (Tavancore) do.
The Sattiavartamani (Pasumalai) do.
The Vetticodiyon (Madras) do.
The Dinavartamani (Madras) do.
The Yadartavasani (Madras) of 5th do.
The Gnanakhanu (Madras) for April.

MADRAS,
12*th June* 1878.

(Signed) W. F. WRIGHT, Major,
Tamil Translator to Government.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 15*th June* 1878.

The *Etharthavasani of the* 12*th June*.—The Editor is of opinion that the Madras Municipality would be gainers if they appoint one respectable person for each street in this City to look after its sanitary conditions. By this method the numerous body of Overseers and Sub-Overseers can be dispensed with, and matters conducted more efficiently without any considerable expense.

2. The same paper speaks with disapprobation of the Nala venba having been selected as one of the text-books this year for the Matriculation Examination. The Syndicate, the Editor observes, should have made choice of some other work than this, which contains coarse expressions and indelicate sentiments.

3. Papers received and examined during the week under report :—

The Dinavartamani (Madras) of the 8th June 1878.
The Etharthavasani (Madras) of the 12th do.

MADRAS,
18*th June* 1878.

(Signed) W. F. WRIGHT, Major,
Tamil Translator to Government.

Report on Telugu Newspapers for the Month of June 1878.

During this month were received the following Telugu Papers *Vivikavardhani* May 1878, *Purusharthapradaini* May 1878, *Vartalahari* June 1st, 1878, and *Svadharmaprakasini* of the month of Chaitra in the Bahudhanya year.

2. There is nothing of importance in the abovementioned Newspapers except the violent partisanship of the *Purusharthapradaini* for the prisoner Lingam Lakshmaji Pandit. In the May number is placed prominently on the first page the following English paragraph :—

"A word about the so-called Forgery case tried here. The misfortune of Mr. Lingam Lakshmaji Pandit, who has been made to suffer ignominy and hardships in the Jail, is felt like a public calamity. This personage of the Hindu community, who is an accomplished scholar, a linguist, and a politician, is highly respected by all classes of the people, and his services are appreciated by the Indian and the Home Governments alike. The native public of Masulipatam have, all to a man, sympathised with the Pandit, and petitioned the Government of Madras to appoint a Commission to try the Pandit's case *de novo*. We fervently hope that the Government will condescend at an early date to see full justice done to the distinguished Pandit. As we see by the various communications sent us from abroad, so also hope the people of the Telugu country in which the Pandit has good popularity."

3. Memorandum of Newspapers examined during the months of June 1878:—

Purusharthapradaini.—	*Estimated Circulation*	*No.*	206.
Svadharmaprakasini.—	*Do.*	,,	300.
Vivikavardhani.—	*Do.*	,,	300.
Vartalahari.—	*Do.*	,,	175.

MADRAS, 8th July 1878.

(Signed) GUSTAV OPPERT, PH.D., *Offg. Telugu Translator to Government.*

From E. THOMPSON, Esq., M.A., Malayalam Translator to Government, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Madras, dated Coonoor, 17th June 1878, No. 52.

I have the honor to forward a report upon the *Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka* of the 1st instant.

2. As stated in my letter to you of the 23rd ultimo, No. 47, this paper has not appeared for more than two months, but I cannot find in the present issue any explanation of this circumstance beyond the half jocular remarks made in the leading article, a summary of which will be found in the report.

Report on Malayalam Newspapers for the Month of June 1878.

Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka, 1st June.—The first letter reports the irregularities in measuring milk for the use of the Ampalapuzhe Temple and other unfair practices of the temple-servants, and praises the new Tahsildar who will, unlike his predecessors, take action to rectify the evils. It is also hoped that he will increase the prosperity of the people by examining the weights and measures used by the traders of Patinhara Nata.

2. The second letter refers to a "Reformation Society," and contains allusions and references which are almost wholly unintelligible. It is, however, intended to be a criticism on the conflicting statements of two other correspondents.

3. The third letter is a criticism on a book, translated by a Syrian, about ringing bells in churches, &c.

4. The fourth letter inquires why the Native Missionaries appointed by the Church Mission Society are not equally paid while the nature of their work is the same; discusses the subject by means of questions and answers; depreciates the efficiency of the present native priests; condemns the practice of missionaries going to the Nilgiris, Shervaroy, and other places, and recommends that every body should be treated alike receiving a moderate salary, say, 30 Rupees per mensem.

5. The leading article says that it is stated in the *Madras Standard* that there will be a decrease in the income of the Vernacular papers published in the northern, eastern, and western parts of India. The Editor here takes an opportunity of reflecting on his readers in Southern India: he divides the readers of his paper into three classes (1) correspondents who get the paper without payment in consideration of their supplying some stupid uninteresting and unintelligible letters to the columns of the paper; (2) those who read the paper by borrowing it from others, and (3) those who request that the papers may be sent to them regularly and say that the subscription will be paid on demand. The Editor then gives the various forms of excuses for evading payment on the part of this last class of people, and dwells on the difficulties he had in conducting the paper; attributes the non-publication of the paper for the last two months to this default of payment, asks the forgiveness of those who have paid the subscription in advance, and hopes that the subscribers to the paper will have the goodness to support the publication by remitting their subscription regularly in future.

6. The second leader reports the failure of the Tahsildar and his subordinates in executing the judgment about the possession of the Cheriapalli at Kottayam, comments upon the impropriety of the Tahsildar's report to the Magistrate as to how the execution of the judgment might be enforced, and questions the soundness of the judgment of the Sadr Court.

7. Another article headed "War or Peace" is in substance a translation from some English newspaper.

8. Amongst the local and miscellaneous items a paragraph says that, a few days ago, a Mopla who had been convicted of crimes on two or three former occasions was brought up on a new charge before the Calicut Sub-Magistrate; that the Sub-Magistrate convicted him of the offence he was charged with, and sentenced him to three months' imprisonment, and that while the Sub-Magistrate was warning him that if he were brought again to his Court, he would have no other alternative but to commit him to the Court of Sessions, the offender had the impertinence to fling a stone at the Sub-Magistrate's chest and hurt him slightly. It is also stated that the offender said that he wanted to fling the stone at the Sub-Magistrate's eyes, and that he was sorry that he missed his mark. The writer is astonished to find that several similar instances have not yet convinced the Police of the desirability of examining the person of offenders before they are presented for trial. Another paragraph gives a flattering account of Dewan Nanu Pillay's tour on circuit, and says that notwithstanding his just intentions to secure the property and persons of the people, his attendants did not wholly abstain from the perpetration of acts of injustice; but that the Dewan had the wisdom to deal with such mal-practices as had come to his ears very seriously. Of the remaining paragraphs some contain reports on the state of the weather and crops, the appearance of locusts and the damage done by them, notices of appointments by the Collector and of the commission and trial of offences. Some paragraphs are translations of extracts from English newspapers and the rest contain nothing worth notice.

9. *Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka, 15th June.*—The only letter in the correspondence columns is a criticism on the reflections of a contributor published in the last issue upon the inequality of the salaries of the Native Missionaries, &c.

10. The leading article headed the "Vernacular Press Act" runs as follows:—As the vernacular papers in India have contained writings which are either hostile to the Government, or are calculated to produce disloyalty in the minds of the ignorant masses, the Members of the Legislative Council of India have lately passed a new Act to repress such proceedings. It provides that nothing shall be published in the vernacular papers which is either unfriendly to the Government or is likely to cause disaffection towards the Government; that if any body violates this provision, he shall be liable to the punishment specified in the Act; and that the printer or publisher of every vernacular paper may be called upon to enter into a bond binding himself to the provisions of the Act. But this Act applies only to the Presidencies of Bengal and Bombay. It does not at present affect us and other native printing establishments in the Madras Presidency. From this it will be clear to the public in what light our publications have been considered by the Government. Whether this Act were in force, or not, we should not publish anything at variance with our former opinions, and we hope that our contemporaries will not give occasion for extending the provisions of the Act to the Madras Presidency also. We are glad that Government have entertained such a high opinion regarding the vernacular papers of the Madras Presidency; but we agree with the English papers in their opinion about the inexpediency of the Act. If the Vernacular papers published in other Presidencies contain seditious matters, it will be far more praiseworthy to prosecute such papers before a Court of justice under the ordinary law. If two or three papers were thus prosecuted and convicted, it would set an example to the other papers and inspire them with dread. Example is much better than precept. It was an honor granted to Indian subjects by Sir C. Metcalfe freely to express their opinions on the Proceedings of Government. Now this freedom has been taken away except as regards the Vernacular papers in the Madras Presidency. This partiality may be due to the objectionable publications in other Presidencies. But the question is whether the ends aimed at

will be secured by taking away that inestimable boon. The writings appearing in Vernacular papers are almost the same as those published in the English papers. But the Members of the Legislative Council of India think that if such writings did not appear in the Vernaculars, the natives, especially the unenlightened portion of them, would not be able to become acquainted with them. But it is on account of their ignorance of the native character that they think so. The natives are in the habit of gathering news from English Newspapers with the same zeal and attention with which they get them from native papers. Whether the news be published in English or in the Vernaculars, it is the same to those who are not anxious to know them; but those who are desirous of knowing a thing will know it some how or other. "The mouths of 1000 pots can be shut, but it is impossible to shut the mouth of a man." The meaning of this is (the writer says) that people *will* discuss subjects worth noticing. Hence it is not the ignorant people, but such as have had the enlightenment of English education that the Government should fear. The ignorant will tremble at the words Government, Police, Army, and Sahibs. However prejudiced they may become by the readings of native papers, they will tremble when they hear the noise of a gun, or the advice of an English knowing man in whom the Government have placed so much confidence. If a man publishes his opinion on a subject through a Newspaper there is a likelihood of its weaknesses being discovered. If his opinion be unsound, it will give rise to a great deal of discussion. But if his opinion proves to be sound, and if he be not allowed to give it publicity through a public organ, he will tell it here and there, and impress it upon the minds of the people; such a practice will probably turn out to be dangerous. Sir C. Metcalfe properly understood the matter when he conferred the said honor on India. We, however, express our gratitude for the just treatment we have met with at the hands of Government in exempting us from the operation of the Act. Nevertheless, we do not feel sorry at the report that the Act may be shortly made applicable to this Presidency also, since we do not feel delighted at the enjoyment of a privilege denied to our contemporaries in other Presidencies. We once more declare that we shall direct our labors to the advantage of Government and the people with the same care and the same intentions as heretofore, while, at the same time, we wish that no such restrictions may be made upon the English papers.

11. The second leader headed the "Martyrdom of two Missionaries of the Church Mission" reports the sorrow felt in England on the receipt of the intelligence by telegram of the murder by a native chief of two Missionaries in Central Africa named Smith and Neal, and gives a brief account of the state of that region, the career of the late Dr. Livingstone, his labors there, &c.

12. Amongst the paragraphs devoted to general news is one which expresses satisfaction at the birth of a contemporary entitled *Kerala Dipaka* in Cochin, of which eight numbers have appeared and speaking on the whole well of the paper, disapproves of its quarrel with the *Sutya nado Kahalam*, though the seed of quarrel was first sown by the latter. The paragraph further warns *Kerala Dipaka* against sending the papers to its readers without receiving the subscription in advance, as though Newspaper readers are multiplying, they have not yet become accustomed to pay for the paper.

13. The rest of the paper consist of extracts and items of news of no importance.

MADRAS,
30*th June* 1878.

(Signed) E. THOMPSON,
Malayalum Translator to Government.

Report on Hindustani Newspapers published in Madras during the Month of June 1878.

Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi of 9th June.—"Freedom of the Press."—Writes a long article under this head after noticing the advantages gained by the freedom of the press both by the Government and their subjects, observes that for some time some Native Editors who are unable to realise the extent of this favor, and are

ignorant how to avail themselves of its advantages have deviated from the path of moderation; and with reference to the lower classes have gradually been for time displaying such intemperance and radicalism in their writings, till at last they have commenced to write about the Government in a most improper style, and have been recklessly inserting in their papers inflammatory and siditious articles calculated to upset peace and order. Although the Indian Penal Code clearly provides fitting punishment for the authors and originators of these scurrilous articles and is capable of awarding punishment in every instance, yet the Government have promulgated a new law for the purpose of stopping the seditious writings in the Native papers and the Honorable A. J. Arbuthnot who for some time was principal Member of the Madras Government, and who is now a Member of the Governor-General's Council, took upon himself to prepare this law; in short, the draft was drawn out and the law was brought forward in accordance with the regulations of the legislative Council; the reasons for so doing were advanced, and the Governor-General produced before the Members some translations of seditious articles taken as a hand sample from some Native papers, on that the law was approved, and it was ordered to be enforced in Bengal and North-West Provinces, and from some editors a bail bond or deed of security was demanded. This they refused to give, and affairs between them and the Government rose to such a pitch that some gentlemen said they would give up their papers, but would not give bail bond. Several meetings were held in opposition to this new law, and appeals were presented to Parliament praying for its abolition, and all the English press, both in this country and at home, unanimously condemned this new law, except a few prejudiced, bigoted, foolish, and short-sighted English local Editors. After this step orders were sent to the Indian Government not to demand in future bail bond from any Editor, and to return all that had been taken the matter is now under consideration in both houses of Parliament.

2. Our worthy readers should know that liberty of the press was granted by Sir C. Metcalfe when he was appointed temporarily as Governor-General, and that up to the present time every Editor has enjoyed this privilege without interference; but it is probable that this liberty of Native Editors and their power by virtue of the same privilege of disclosing the condition of the poor and oppressed and the injustice of some of our rulers and their ability to write with argument and proofs in any proper case in which Natives are concerned are disagreeable to some European gentlemen, and that they have, therefore, combined to remove it, and have taken as the grounds for removing this privilege from all Native Editors. Some foolish and absurd sentences of a few stupid and short-sighted Editors which, in the opinion of any sensible person, would be regarded as utterly unworthy of consideration. In a word, the exalted Government have promulgated this unrighteous edict, and have brought themselves into unseemly trouble, because the Indian Penal Code was quite sufficient to punish these seditious, scurrilous, and unworthy Editors; and deliberately to snatch away privileges from worthy and respectable Editors on account of a few unworthy ones, is utterly improper, and we distinctly state that our rulers thinking that their defects and unjust actions could not be concealed if the Native press were free, have therefore opened the way to deprive Editors of their rights; for although the Act under discussion does not entirely remove the liberty of the press, still in the event of its being put in force and of its being approved by the Home Government, then it may be feared that gradually the liberty of the Native press, and subsequently that of the English press too, will entirely disappear; but we are confident that the Home Government will strongly disapprove of this unnecessary Act. This idea of Government that the publication of some seditious news or passages in a newspaper would alter the people's state of mind and stir up a mutiny and disorder, is in every point absurd. If any Editor were to write that Nana Row or any other rebel chieftain, at the head of rebel Russians or any other auxiliary force, is coming into Hindustan, or that the Amir of Cabul, with the assistance of Russia, is about to invade Hindustan, then even ignorant people would consider that Editor a liar and a fool, and they would say that as he was short of news to fill up his paper, he had fabricated some; for it is the custom of some Editors, for the purpose of increasing the circulation of their papers and with the desire of impressing the lower orders with its importance as a channel of intelligence, to invent news and to introduce

these fabrications into their papers as if they were taken from others; besides this, their papers always contain abuse of or complaints against some one or other and obscene or filthy words. Those men perhaps regard such articles as the source of their prosperity, and therefore insert them in their papers; for instance, a contemporary of ours often fills up his columns with these false items of intelligence and scurrilous articles. If the Government would scrutinise such articles and test the circumstances which are narrated in them by the touch-stone of truth, then their real nature would be revealed, and then they might inflict on those Editors such punishment as is sanctioned by the Indian Penal Code.

3. *Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi*, 23*rd June*.—After remarking that the Czar's marrying his daughter to the English family was on political grounds, goes on to state that the Czar systematically employs the services of facinating women to win the good will of the European and specially of the English nobility, and further gives it as a fact that European political affairs are generally conducted through the agency of lady spies.

4. List of Hindustani newspapers published at Madras during the month of June 1878 :—

Shams-ul-Akhbar of 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th.
Jarida-i-Rozgar of 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th.
Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi of 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th.
Mazhur-ul-Akhbar of 10th, 20th, and 30th.
Tilism-i-Hairat of 5th, 15th, and 25th.
Safir-i-Madras of 7th, 17th, and 27th.

(Signed) C. D. BAYNES, Major,
Persian and Hindustani
Translator to Government.

No. 1164-A.

Copy forwarded to the Under-Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India in the departments noted below, and to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy :—

Home.
Foreign.
Financial.
Public Works.
Military.
Legislative.
Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
30*th July* 1878.

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

CONFIDENTI[illegible]L.

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 13th July 1878.

A correspondent of the *Salem Suthasabhimani* of the 1st July laments the injustice done to the carters of Kumarapaliam by the butler and the peons in the service of Mr. Homan, the Relief Officer in the Bawanee Taluk. The carters, requiring payment of their hire, have to bribe the above said persons. If they omit to do so, the payment is sure to be delayed for months. It appears that the rate sanctioned by Government for transit-bullocks is 3 annas per mile, but only half that sum is actually paid. When carters are taken along on circuit, the batta allowed them seems to be 4 annas, and this, too, is denied to those in the Bawanee Taluk. If they demand payment of hire and batta due to them, they receive nothing but ill-treatment (at the hands of the butler and the peons).

2. In the *Yatharthavasani* (10th July) the Editor reasons thus: Famine is caused by the absence of rain, and rain is not always to be expected. It would be wise, therefore, if lakes are dug out deep within ten miles of each other and canals cut out from great rivers. This would ensure a perennial supply of water. The people in the mofussil suffering from famine poured down into Madras in great numbers. Diseases became widely prevalent and carried away both the old and the new inhabitants alike. The Editor suggests that Government should, to prevent the repetition of the same calamities, appoint chief men in the villages to succour the needy and prevent the influx of people into the town.

3. Papers received and examined during the week under report :—

The Travancore Abhimani of the 1st July.
The Sattiavartamani (Pasumalai) do.
The Suthasabhimani (Salem) do.
The Vetticodiyon (Madras) of the 6th do.
The Dinavartamani (Madras) do.
The Yatharthavasani (Madras) of the 10th July.

MADRAS,
16th July 1878.

(Signed) W. F. WRIGHT, Major,
Tamil Translator to Government.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 27th July 1878.

The Editor of the *Yatharthavasani* in his issue of the 24th July brings forward once more the oft-repeated complaints against the Madras Railway Company, that on festival occasions people are crowded into the carriages, that lights are not put up in the third class carriages, which will favor theft, and that the native passengers are generally treated without any consideration by the Company's officers.

3. Papers received and examined during the week under report :—

The Suthasabhimani (Salem) of the 15th July.
The Abhimani (Tavancore) of the 20th do.
The Vetticodiyon (Madras) do.
The Dinavartamani (Madras) do.
The Yatharthavasani (Madras) of the 24th do.
The Janavinodini (Madras) for the month of May.

MADRAS,
29th July 1878.

(Signed) W. F. WRIGHT, Major,
Tamil Translator to Government.

Report on Telugu Newspapers for the Month of July 1878.

During this month were received the following Telugu Papers *Vartalahari* June 17th, July 1st and 16th, 1878, *Purusharthapradaini* June 1878, and *Vivikavardhani* June 1878.

2. The latter paper contains nothing of importance. In the *Vartalahari*, (*July 16th*), the Editor objects to the practice prevailing at Berhampore where Stamp Vendors sell stamps at their own quarters instead of at Courts. The Pleaders and parties are much inconvenienced by going for stamps to Berhampore Town. The competent authorities should interfere and pass orders that Stamp Vendors will in future sell stamps at Courts.

3. *Purusharthapradaini* is again urging the case of the convict Lingam Lakshmaji Pandit, and showing a peculiar interest for him. The article in question runs thus: "The Native public of Masulipatam having petitioned the Government to do full justice to Mr. Lingam Lakshmaji Pandit in the so-called Forgery case, that evidently shows itself to be a fabrication against him, are very anxious to hear the early orders of the Government thereon. In general, the Native public of the Telugu country consider that over-grown malice lies at the bottom of the case, and therefore earnestly pray for the liberation and acquittal of Mr. Lakshmaji Pandit—one of the brightest jewels of the Hindu Society and a good Statesman known to the Government by his valuable services. May not innocence be doomed to suffer in any way under the equitable rule of the British Government of India?"

4. Memorandum of Newspapers examined during the months of July 1878:—

Purusharthapradaini.—	*Estimated Circulation*	No.	206.
Vivikavardhani.—	*Do.*	,,	300.
Vartalahari.—	*Do.*	,,	175.

MADRAS,
8th August 1878.

(Signed) GUSTAV OPPERT, Ph.D.,
Offg. Telugu Translator to Government.

Report on Malayalam Newspapers for the Month of July 1878.

Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka, *1st July*.—The first letter laughs at the sudden appearance of a quack Surgeon at Bharanamganam in Minachal, who appears to understand medical science without having learnt it, gives in obscure language a comical account of his practice in medicine and surgery, and reports the death of a woman from his unskilful treatment.

2. The second letter, in referring to the receipt by the writer of two books entitled "Manushya Hridayam" (human heart) and "Punch," the former containing different pictures indicative of different qualities, such as that of a jackal for cunning, and the latter representing the European sovereigns and their ministers in such habits and words (Prince Bismark is called a great fox and Disraeli a great tame elephant brought to be matched with a wild one) as are suited to the present time, which circumstance has brought to the writer's memory a man in his neighbourhood, is intended to be a censure upon the man, and borrows several quarrelsome and intriguing characters from the "Pancha Tantram" as comparisons illustrative of him, but who is alluded to in the letter is far from clear.

3. The leading article headed "What is Education?" enumerates the various branches of different arts and sciences, and concludes with a promise that the right answer to the question will appear subsequently.

4. Amongst the local items a paragraph in reporting that a young Brahmin widow at Palghaut lately gave birth to a child and instantly mutilated and killed it for fear of degradation, and that the fact having come to the knowledge of the Police, the case was inquired into, but that it is not known whether they have themselves hushed it up or sent it up to the Magistrate says, that the father of the child is the husband of the widow's infant daughter, and comments upon the serious

consequences arising from the practice of infant marriage and the absence of widow marriage.

5. Another paragraph in bringing to notice the dismissal of a complaint brought by a Sudra woman at Palayi against a Nayar for assaulting herself, taking her infant and throwing it to a distance and taking away her neck ornament, says that a grosser piece of injustice has never been heard of in this part of the country, and promises a full account of the case in one of the following issues.

6. The rest of the paper contains only extracts from English newspapers and local items of no importance.

7. *Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka, 15th July.*—A notice to correspondents and translations of telegrams from London and Berlin fill up three columns.

8. A letter in reporting a rumour that about 100 followers of the Anglican Church have been enticed away by the new Reformists, expresses the writer's astonishment at it, and referring to the fact that these people had been originally Syrians, that they were afterwards converted to the Anglican Church, and that they have now been drawn off and admitted into the new Reformation Society, mentions, for the information of the readers, that the President of this Society is at present a European Missionary, and that it is probable that on some future day a Syrian Metran or some others might be able to bring back the lost sheep to their original fold, the Syrian Church.

9. A Trichoor correspondent finds fault with the remarks of a writer in a previous issue in disparagement of the local district school.

10. The leading article is a concise account of the marriage ceremony of the Maharajah of Mysore.

11. Referring to a statement in the report of the Madras Religious Tract and Book Society for the past year, another article points out the desirability of publishing a Malayalam version of the Bible adapted to the use of the four different Churches existing in Malabar. As Dr. Gundert's translation used in the north and the Rev. Mr. Bailey's in the south fail from the peculiar character of each to be useful to all alike, recommends an addition to the native element in the Committee formed for the revision of the translations, &c.

12. A paragraph mentions that there are 450,000 Christians in Cochin and Travancore together; that in no other part of India does such a proportion of Christians exist; and that 300,000 of them are Syrians, 100,000 Catholics and 50,000 Protestants.

13. With reference to a Notification promulgated in New York imposing a penalty of Rupees 50 upon vendors of wine, beer, and other liquor to persons under fourteen years of age, and 20 Rupees upon those vending liquor to persons below eighteen years without the consent of the parents of the latter, a paragraph says that the enforcement here of a similar enactment by the British Government will cause many to be disloyal to king Liquor.

14. A paragraph from Mavelikara in Travancore complains that an extra fee of a few annas is illegally levied by the Clerks under the Sub-Registrar there upon every document presented for registration; and another paragraph brings to notice the leaky and dilapidated condition of the local hospital.

MADRAS,
25th July 1878.

(Signed) E. THOMPSON,
Malayalam Translator to Government.

Report on Hindustani Newspapers published during the Month of July 1878.

Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi, 7th July.—In an article headed Congress the Editor condemns in general terms the action of the European powers in Congress in giving into Russia who has evidently had matters arranged as she liked; he compares the gift by Russia of Herzegovina and Bosnia to Austria with the throwing of a bone to

a barking dog, in order to keep it quite; and he foretells the speedy disintegration of Turkey and the consequent fighting for the prizes which must arise between the other European powers.

2. *Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi*, *14th July*.—Has an article headed Dismemberment of Turkey, in which the Editor censures most strongly the action of the English Government in permitting the dismemberment of European Turkey, and prophesies the speedy absorption of the whole Turkish Empire, and states that England in taking possession of Cyprus has acted in direct opposition to her professions, and has virtually commenced that course of annexation by which she acquired possession of Hindustan, and cautions the Turkish Government not to afford the slightest pretext for further annexation. He then proceeds to point out that the action of England in truckling to Russia as shown by the arrangement agreed upon in Congress is in direct opposition of upholding the treaties of Paris; that the Congress was merely a farce, as all the powers had evidently come to a private understanding that Turkey was gradually to be dismembered and divided amongst themselves; and that it is a matter of regret that England, who professed to be a firm friend of Turkey should join in robbing her. The same issue has an article on Lord Beaconsfield in which his action in the Congress is condemned in strong terms; he is accused of playing into the hand of the Czar, who in consequence has allowed him to take possession of Cyprus, and of having thrown over the Turkish Government for this bribe which he should not have done; great though the bribe may be, the writer expresses his surprise that he was not ashamed to do so even on account of the large number of Mussulman subjects in Hindustan, and concludes by stating that he has brought a stain on the English reputation which can never be effaced.

4. List of Hindustani newspapers published at Madras during the month of July 1878 :—

Shams-ul-Akhbar of 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th.
Jarida-i-Rozgar of 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th.
Shahi Umdat-ul-Akhbar of 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th.
Tilism-i-Hairat of 5th, 15th, and 25th.
Mazhur-ul-Akhbar of 10th, 20th, and 31st.
Safir-i-Madras of 7th and 27th.

(Signed) C. D. BAYNES, Major,
Persian and Hindustani
Translator to Government.

No. 1286-A.

Copy forwarded to the Under-Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India in the departments noted below, and to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy :—

Home.
Foreign.
Financial.
Public Works.
Military.
Legislative.
Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
26th August 1878.

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

CONFIDENTIAL.

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 3rd August 1878.

The Vetticodiyon of the 27th July is of opinion that the work of the local Municipality (of Madras) can be done by a fewer number of officers than at present. The roads in Native quarters, the paper observes, are in a wretched state, and the lighting of Municipal lamps in those places is far from satisfactory.

2. Papers received and examined during the week under report :—

The Gnanabanu (Madras) for May.
The Vetticodiyon (Madras) of the 27th July.
The Dinavartamani (Madras) do. do.

MADRAS,
7th August 1878.

(Signed) W. F. WRIGHT, Major,
Tamil Translator to Government.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 10th August 1878.

The Editor of the *Yatharthavasani* of the 7th August protests (in an article of which the following is a translation) against the admission of the children of the dancing-girl caste and of prostitutes into the Girls' schools. He is afraid that they are dangerous companions to the Hindu children (born in wedlock), and proposes that schools be established exclusively for them.

[*The Yatharthavasani* of the 7th August 1878]. "Bad company is always dangerous.—If our Government consider a little the meaning of the above sentence, the dissatisfaction of the natives will die out. This dissatisfaction is felt in connection with the present system of education. This statement will not be easily believed, as Government are striving more and more to diffuse education among the people, and we see parents from different quarters sending their children to schools to reap the benefits to be derived there. We do not find fault with Government in their seeking to increase knowledge among the people, but what we desire is simply that they will reform the Girls' schools. The curriculum observed in the various institutions is excellent; but there is a great defect still unremoved in the schools established for Girls, though Government have been petitioned to remove it. If our children read with those of the dancing-girls we are obliged to say that our children will not keep in the path of rectitude; we have their mode of behaviour at present before our eyes for saying so.

2. Our ancestors kept their daughters in ignorance; but at the time when some Sastris have risen to explode all former opinions and to defend the cause of female education, the Government instead of giving an impetus to this movement, allow the children of prostitutes to read with our legitimate offspring. This is not beneficial in its results, but is a source of trouble to the parents (of lawful daughters) and a vexation to their (future) husbands. Our sages have said that by keeping bad company we become wicked; every body acts upon this maxim. We know what is the characteristic nature of the children of prostitutes and dancing-girls; it does not need to be dwelt upon at length. A prostitute's child is trained to follow the profession of her mother; she knows the goings-on in the house and learns them in course of time. Will she not venture to talk about these things to our children in the schools? The evil does not stop here; our children, too, may be induced by the friendship they form to visit the children of the dancing-girls at their houses. And then, what can we say about the steadiness of mind of our

children after witnessing the deeds carried on there. Those women (leading a wedded life), who made friendship with prostitutes, have fallen, and are now sunk in misery. There is no pleasure, says Dambachari, in wedding women who have no glibness of tongue. Indeed, it would seem that, to favor this saying, we are sending our children to read with those of the dancing-girls (*i.e.*, that they may learn smoothness of speech). There is no denying that the songs and odes sung by the dancing-girls are lewd; and when the mother sings, will her children keep aloof and not learn them? If our children happen to hear those songs sung to fine music, will they leave them unsung? Will they not desire to know them? We need not expect morality from the children of the dancing-girl caste, who, after they go home from schools, are the usual spectators of dancing performances, the dancing-master being in attendance with his musical instruments. The prostitutes take upon themselves to train up their children from their infancy and teach them nothing but how to lure the other sex. How, then, can we allow our children to read with these? We have not space sufficient in this paper to dwell upon the evils resulting from it.

3. Bashfulness, timidity, simplicity, and delicacy are the four ornaments of a woman; but if they are found in a dancing-girl, her occupation is gone and she must starve. A courtesan narrated before the Lord Seethagathi how she acquired wealth, and how it was plundered by robbers. What shall we say of her who intimated that in obtaining money, she sold her bashfulness and something else. This is a fact. Did she evince modesty in what she said before the assembly? Such being the profession to be followed by the prostitutes, why should we speak disparagingly of them? It is sufficient for us if we continue as we are.

4. Our rulers being English people, they may not know the deception practised by the prostitutes (of this country). We may concur when it is argued that caste prejudice is a mere illusion, but we have no mind to agree with those who say that the children of prostitutes and those born in wedlock may read together. Is this the same as arguing that a Brahmin cannot sit with a Pariah? No, we are strenuous in upholding the cause of education. Let Government take this matter into their consideration, and much good will result from it. Some gallants, who frequent houses of bad repute, may think that we are against educating the children of the dancing-girl class; but they are mistaken. Will they desire that their own wives should turn out to be prostitutes? Ah no! Our reasoning will benefit even them. Again, there are others who will say to their kept mistresses, holding this paper before them, "Light of my eyes, &c., see how these fools write nonsense, and say that our children should not read; the fact is, they are envious of our children and of their celebrity and mode of carriage in public. We have nothing to fear so long as Government is on our side." Let Government establish one school in each Division exclusively for the children of prostitutes; and the people (who are heads of families) cannot but send their children to the other girls' schools without fear or doubt. Our Government will not think of the cost of erecting separate schools, for their distinguishing character is to advance the public good even by borrowing money when they have it not. The builders of halls and bridges at a vast expense will not shrink from the expenditure incurred on account of education. Whom are we to ask for what we want for our children, but of our parental Government? We have now, therefore, made this known to Government; and may we act according to this maxim:—

> Bad company is dangerous every where,
> And good company in every way beneficial."

2. Papers received and examined during the week under report:—

The Sattiavartamani (Pasumalai) of the 1st August.
The Abhimani (Tavancore) of the do. do.
The Suthasabhimani (Salem) of the do. do.
The Dinavartamani (Madras) of the 3rd do.
The Vetticodiyon (Madras) do. do.
The Yatharthavasani (Madras) of the 7th do.

MADRAS,
13th August 1878.

(Signed) W. F. WRIGHT, Major,
Tamil Translator to Government.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 31*st August* 1878.

Karnamirtham of the 24th August, a weekly paper newly started in Madras, prays Government to order a Police Constable to be stationed in the road leading to the Mount between Popham's Broadway and the Bridge near the Government House. The people, says the paper, are afraid to traverse that part of the road after sunset.

Papers received and examined during the week under report.

The Dinavartamani (Madras) of the 24th August 1878.
The Vetticodiyon (Madras) do. do.
The Karnamirtham (Madras) do. do.

MADRAS,
3*rd September* 1878.

(Signed) W. F. WRIGHT, Major,
Tamil Translator to Government.

Report on Telugu Newspapers for the Month of August 1878.

During this month were received the following Telugu papers :—

The Vivekavardhani, July 1878 ;
The Vartalahari, August 1st and 15th, 1878 ;
The Svadharmaprakasini of the *Vaisakha* and *Jyishtha* months of the years *Bahudhanya* and
The Purusharthapradaini, July 1878.

The first three papers contain nothing of importance.

2. The Editor of the *Purusharthapradaini* remarks that the late copious rains at Masulipatam have flooded the town. The defective system of drainage still prevails. The roads in the town are in the same muddy state and as impassable as they were twelve years ago. Cholera has made its appearance in the town. It is urgently required that the town be properly cleaned, that the water in the tanks, &c., be kept in a pure state, and that the articles of daily consumption be carefully inspected in the bazaar.

3. Memorandum of Newspapers examined during the Month of August 1878 :—

Purusharthapradaini.—	*Estimated Circulation No.*	206.
Swadharmapracasini.—	*Do.*	,, 300.
Vivikavardhani.—	*Do.*	,, 300.
Vartalahari.—	*Do.*	,, 175.

MADRAS,
10*th September* 1878.

(Signed) GUSTAV OPPERT,
Offg. Telugu Translator to Government.

Report on Malayalum Newspapers for the Month of August 1878.

Paschima Taraka and Kirala Pataka, 1st August.—The first letter, in stating that a small newspaper in the Syrian language is a desirable thing, solicits the united exertions of the Editor and the association to give such a publication a start and promises whatever help the writer is capable of giving towards the furtherance of the motion.

2. The second letter is a criticism upon the Reformation Society, and comments upon the action of its Secretary in receiving a certain family excommunicated (?) by the Lord Bishop of Madras, and in enticing away, through their influence, 23 families attached to the ancient church at Kotukulanhi.

3. The third letter takes up a little more than a column, and is not very intelligible. It appears to be a criticism upon the Church Mission Society, and referring to the small pay of its missionaries published in a former issue, points to several ways in which the funds are improperly spent.

4. The leading article entitled a "statement of the different articles of food in different countries" fills up about two columns, the first part of which being in substance merely a translation of the 1st Chapter of Genesis, 11—29 and following verses, and the rest a description of the articles of food of different nations and the crops cultivated in different countries.

5. The second leader headed the "Books" also occupies two columns, and appears to be a translation from some English publication. In dwelling upon the rarity of books in ancient times, the various methods contrived by human skill for the preservation of knowledge and the materials of which books were then made, hails the discovery of the arts of paper manufacture and printing by which innumerable books are struck off in various languages, and notices, as an instance of the expeditious operation of the press, that the printing of the *London Times* of which 175,000 copies ought to be ready for despatch every day at 6 A.M., begins only at 4 A.M.

6. Amongst the miscellaneous items a paragraph says that there are large Government Schools and Government Normal Schools at Tellicherry, Calicut, and Palghaut, where learning is in a highly progressive state; that the rapid progress of education in the last-mentioned place is attributed to the fact that the majority of the population of the place are Brahmins, that there are in all 714 schools and 22,000 students in the District of Malabar which contains a population of 2¼* lakhs of which 549,612 are Moplahs, and that Government have started schools for Moplahs who are the most ignorant class of people in Malabar, but that the Moplah schools are becoming numerically weaker and weaker every year.

* The writer probably means 2¼ millions.

7. Another paragraph from Chowghaut reports the arrival of the Head Assistant Collector Mr. Underwood on the spot, his trip to Enamakal, a neighbouring village, to inquire into the damage done by the locusts to the punjah crop, his sympathy for the losses sustained by the cultivators, and the consequent recommendation that a portion of the revenue of such damaged crops for the year should be remitted. The writer believes that Mr. Logan, the Collector, will be moved with compassion to show his usual kindness in granting the indulgence recommended by his Head Assistant.

8. *Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka*, 15*th August*.—The first letter eulogises the merits of one Velu Panikkur, Sub-Magistrate of Kumarakam, in Travancore.

9. Referring to an article in the impression of the 15th July last, about the revision of the Malayalam translation of the Bible, a second letter declares that though there are no natives of North Malabar nominated to join in the Committee for the revision, such work is never done by the German Missionaries without the assistance of competent natives.

10. The third letter notifies that there was a Boat-race at Champakulam last month, but mentions that as there were no prizes offered this year, no sufficient enthusiasm in the rivalry between the competitors was discernible.

11. The fourth letter intimates that a few of the six-year people have begun to secede; that some of the pillars and supporters of the new doctrine have either apostatised or are dead; that new converts are admitted in a manner different from the usual mode; that eating and drinking have taken the place of the Lord's supper.

12. The fifth letter states that the Anglican Church of Chenganur and Koduvalanhi sprang up from the secessions from the Chenganur Syrian Church, which, however, did not lose much by the desertion of its renegades, nor has it to gain much by their return; that even the establishment of two or three affiliated churches has not tended to diminish the congregation of the Chenganur Syrian parish, which is composed of twenty-one villages with an aggregate number of 1,000 houses; that the seceders were asked by no one to desert their old community; neither have they been invited back, nor is any defection instigated; that their fickleness or inconstancy is apparently attributed to the Missionaries; that it is not known whether they were there subjected to any reformation; but that it must be remarked that on the return of any apostates, the Syrian priests evidently find it not an easy task to lead them back to the straight ways of religion, since the

habits of life and sacramental rules practised by the European Missionaries of the Anglican Church are so very different from those observed by native Syrians, &c.

13. The leading article treats of the articles of food used in different countries and climates.

14. A paragraph from Tellicherry mentions the occurrence of a murderous riot committed at Talayi near Tellicherry by a number of Moplahs and Mukawars or fishermen; states that the Moplahs were the aggressors that there was a free exchange of blows with poles, sticks, &c.; that one of the fishermen died from injuries received; that seventeen out of twenty prisoners committed were convicted by the Sessions Court; that report says that some of the convicts are guiltless, while a few of the actual offenders have not been arrested; that some deceitful individuals, Policemen not excepted, availed themselves of this opportunity to levy blackmail from various persons by putting them in fear of arrest.

15. A paragraph from Palghaut says, for a fortnight there has been incessant rain attended with thunder and lightning. Fields, channels, ponds, and wells have been flooded. None of the crops are bad; the locusts have disappeared, still the prices rule high and the poor are suffering. Paddy is selling at five Edangalis a panam (4 as. + 7 ps.). An order from Government fixing eight Edangalis a panam will be welcome. Immigrant beggars have been sent away to their respective places by the orders of the Head Assistant Collector, defraying their railway fares.

MADRAS,
23*rd August* 1878.

(Signed) E. THOMPSON,
Malayalam Translator to Government.

Report upon Hindustani Newspapers examined during the Month of August 1878.

The Hindustani Newspapers published at Madras during the month of August 1878 contain no articles of original matter; they are filled with items of news, local and foreign, translated from English newspapers and Urdu Akhbars.

2. List of Hindustani newspapers examined during the month of August 1878:—

Shams-ul-Akhbar of 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th.
Umdat-ul-Akhbar of 4th, 11th, 20th, and 31st.
Jarida-i-Rozgar 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st.
Safir-i-Madras of 7th, 17th, and 27th.
Mazhar-ul-Akhbar of 10th, 20th, and 31st.
Tilism-i-Heirat of 5th and 15th.

CHEPAUK,
12*th September* 1878.

(Signed) C. D. BAYNES, Major,
Persian and Hindustani Translator to Government.

No. 1486-A.

Copy forwarded to the Under-Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India in the departments noted below, and to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy:—

Home.
Foreign.
Financial.
Public Works.
Military.
Legislative.
Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
4*th October* 1878.

C. G. MASTER,
Acting Chief Secretary.

CONFIDENTIAL.

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 7th September 1878.

The *Salem Suthasabhimani* of the 1st September says that the poor people within the town of Salem have not yet recovered from the effects of famine. The poor people outside the town eat the fleshy substance of the Kathali plant; and when asked the reason of it, they will say that they are not taken into the Relief Camp when they seek admission there, and that the road works have been stopped on account of the recent rains. It will be well, therefore, if the Collector (of Salem) inquires into this matter. We have heard also that in Shevapett some famine-stricken people fed upon the carcase of an ass.

2. Papers received and examined during the week :—

The Vettycodiyon (Madras), of the 31st August.
,, *Dinavartamani*, do. do.
,, *Suthasabhimani* (Salem), of the 1st September.
,, *Sathiavartamani* (Pasumalai), do.
,, *Abhimani* (Travancore), of the 2nd do.
,, *Yatharthavasani* (Madras), of the 4th do.

MADRAS,
11th September 1878.

(Signed) A. RUTHNASAWMY,
Tamil Translator's Moonshee in charge of the Office.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 21st September 1878.

The Editor of the *Yatharthavasani* of the 18th September says that, on looking over the Mortuary Register of the Municipality of Madras, it is found that the greatest number of deaths is from dysentery, and secondly from fevers, and asks what the Government and the Municipality have done to mitigate the virulence of these diseases. He thinks it necessary that the Government should appoint physicians (as they did formerly during the prevalence of cholera) to go through every street and inquire about the state of health of the dwellers in each house. These physicians should be instructed to give proper medicines to those suffering from dysentery, and to supply them with food and diet if they are unable to procure it for themselves. Proper medicines should also be available at all the tannah-stations.

2. Papers received and examined during the week under report :—

The Dinavartamani (Madras), of the 14th September.
,, *Vettycodiyon* do. do.
,, *Sathiavartamani* (Pasumalai), of the 15th September.
,, *Yatharthavasani* (Madras), of the 18th September.

MADRAS,
27th September 1878.

(Signed) T. WEIR,
Acting Tamil Translator to Government.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 28th September 1878.

Under the head of Presidency News, the *Yatharthavasani* of the 25th September suggests that the Municipality of Madras should be vigilant in suppressing the sale of unwholesome meat, which is now showing itself again in the bazaars.

2. The same paper draws the attention of the Police to the fact that a person was robbed of his head-cloth as he was passing over the Railway Bridge at Royapuram. The Police should, therefore, exercise their vigilance once more in that quarter.

3. The Municipality should not allow the sale of Nagapalam (a species of jamboo-tree bearing black edible fruits). By eating this fruit, fever is developed and widely spread. The Police too, if they are ordered, will act in concert with the Municipality.

4. Papers received and examined during the week under report:—

The Dinavartamani (Madras), of the 21st September.
,, *Vettycōdiyon* do. do.
,, *Yatharthavasani* do. of the 25th September.

MADRAS,
30th September 1878.

(Signed) T. WEIR,
Acting Tamil Translator to Government.

Report on Telugu Newspapers for the Month of September 1878.

During this month were received the following Telugu papers:—

The Vivekavardhani, August 1878, and
The Vartalahari, September 2nd and 16th, 1878.

The first paper contains nothing of importance.

2. The Editor of the *Vartalahari*, September 2nd, 1878, in an English article on the recent Special Test Examinations complains that the questions set for the above examinations are against the rules. Each examiner chooses a certain book and examines from it in Hindu Law, the Evidence Act, &c., "entirely disregarding the text prescribed by the Government." The Editor suggests to the Special Test candidates to send a memorial to the Commissioner requesting him to apply to Government "to fix distinct texts for all examinations so as to be binding on the examiners to select questions from them alone."

3. Memorandum of Newspapers examined during the month of September 1878:—

Vivekavardhani.—Estimated Circulation, No. 300.
Vartalahari. Do. ,, 175.

MADRAS,
5th October 1878.

(Signed) GUSTAV OPPERT,
Telugu Translator to Government.

Report on Malayalam Newspapers for the Month of September 1878.

Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka, 2nd September.—The first letter complains that no communications from Bombay, Mangalore, Tellicherry, Chombala, and Vadakara correspondents have appeared in the paper for a long time.

2. Having seen a notification that a new paper called the *Kerala Dwipam* was started at Cochin, a correspondent says that he made an application to the Conductor of the paper for his papers, enclosing postage labels, but has received no answer nor papers.

3. A third letter says that at the Parumuku ferry and market a Toll-collector, a worthless Chetti, levies some unauthorised fees from travellers. Parumuka is a station some four or five miles to the west of Beypore.

4. A fourth letter from some place in Travancore mentions some cases of dacoity and house-breaking into which no satisfactory or successful inquiry has been conducted.

5. On behalf of the oppressed tenants holding Sirkar lands on the condition of supplying different articles on festival occasions, a fifth letter complains that the profits and produce of the lands held are insufficient to meet the demands for supplies, and that their offers of surrendering the lands are not accepted, and prays the Maharaja and Dewan of Travancore to be good enough to resume the lands granted and discharge the tenants from their liabilities.

6. The leading article headed "The War News" mentions some of the circumstances that led to the Berlin convention and some of the terms of the treaty concluded.

7. The second leader treats of books and classifies them under six headings, viz., I, religious; II, secularly instructive; III, rhetoric; IV, droll and entertaining; V, impious and atheistic, and VI, newspapers, &c.

8. Amongst the miscellaneous items there is a poetical effusion which describes the Onam feast. Next appears a wonderful Arabian story, which, dwelling on the extent of the power of wicked women, states that they are capable of exercising their influence even on death, and contains the following illustration:—When the Messenger of Death was exulting in his strength as the conqueror of all the worlds, he came to understand that the Arabs held an opinion that a wicked woman was more powerful than himself and bitterly wept at it. God commanded him to perceive it by experience like Solomon the Preacher, who says, "I find more bitter than death the woman whose heart is snares and nets, and her hands as brands." The Messenger of Death soon assumed a human form and married a woman who subsequently proved to be a very ill-natured woman and became a burden to him. He resolved to quit his home but was sorry to leave the son born of her in her custody. He therefore patiently bore all his troubles, and as soon as the boy grew up he revealed his true history to him and bade him quit his mother and seek for his livelihood as a doctor. He said to the boy that if he did not see his father by the bed-side of his patient he could safely say that the patient would soon recover, and that if he saw the father there he might unhesitatingly pronounce that the case was hopeless. One day the king fell ill and the whole profession in the country failed to cure his disease. The queen was willing to forego anything for her king's life and sent for this young man and offered him half of the king's possessions if he could save his life. He entered the royal chamber and was quite disheartened by his father's presence there, but succeeded in gaining his object by calling out to the father that his mother was coming there. The father being frightened at the probability of meeting his wife disappeared from the chamber and never entered it again. The king recovered and granted the queen's offers to the youth.

MADRAS, (Signed) E. THOMPSON,
11th September 1878. *Malayalam Translator to Government.*

From E. THOMPSON, *Esq., M.A., Malayalam Translator to Government, to* C. G. MASTER, *Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Madras, dated 23rd September 1878, No. 70.*

I have the honor to submit a true translation of the article called for in your official memorandum of the 18th instant, No. 1691, Public Department.

A Translation of the second Leader in the Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka, of the 2nd September 1878.

In the last issue there appeared only a history of the birth of books; but what we have most to consider is their internal condition as regards their nature, character, &c.

The value and excellence of a book consist in its contents. There are books which treat of every subject and give various kinds of information and advice. The proverb "All that glitters is not gold" may be justly applied to books. It appears to be easier at the present time to count the hairs of one's body than to count all the books in the world. Whether the world is pleased with the countless and increasing production of books is another question. It would be well if the books were written and read with this design; but we know from experience that the fact is not so. As books are written with various designs, their contents and characteristics differ from each other. Their usefulness is also partial. Books may be chiefly divided into six classes :—

1. *Religious books.*—Of all the various works written by different religionists to publish, to promulgate and establish their respective faiths, the Bible—the book head-ornament which forms the basis *(sic)* of Christianity—is the noblest. No other book has ever been the occasion of producing so many volumes as this book has produced in the way of commentaries and criticisms on the text, nor will any other book rival it hereafter. Even this external and petty circumstance proves the glory of the word of God.

2. *Scientific books.*—To this class belong the secular works which are of great need and utility to man. These are difficult and require studious application for their study. This division also embraces innumerable books. It is these that are of use to man in secular matters.

3. *Poetical and other works which treat of elocution, figures of speech, &c., and are more delightful to man.*—These books aim at increasing the knowledge and growth of language and realize that object. Though it cannot be said that books of this description are *very* necessary for man's pleasure, yet it may be said that they are necessary.

4. There are, however, mere stories which do no good to man, but are intended merely for his amusement and pleasure. As they are of no good to man we are constrained to say that they are useless. In these days these books multiply every hour and are a hindrance to the existence of other more useful works and conduce to waste human life, which is only of a span's length.

5. Now there is another class of people whose writings prove a curse to the world. Their writings resemble the carcases of people who have died of some contagious disease. Though there is no life in the body, yet it sends out and spreads an effluvium which gives life again to the disease. The world is flooded with these writings. They are found in every language. They have become the darlings of every man. These are again classed under two heads. The first teaches impiety and atheism; and the second, as a continuation of the first, dwells on immorality and indecency. Very intelligent people to whom God has given genius for good purposes take delight in making an abuse of it, and the devil never feels so much pleasure as when he sees this. Some books spread defilement with all the strength of hell. To the shame of man it is to be said that there are a large number of such works in the world. Though our language is not wholly free from them, yet we may feel glad that they are not most numerous in our tongue. It is difficult even for the king of serpents to describe the evils arising from such publications in Europe, especially in England and France. We have read the horrible news that more than a million of indecent books and newspapers are weekly sold in England. Though this is horrible news, yet it is a perfectly true fact.

6. The other class comprises newspapers and magazines, publishing the state of public affairs and news and containing commercial advices. These must also come under the head of books. So there are books of every description in this world. Their usefulness will be spoken of hereafter.

(Signed) E. THOMPSON,
Malayalam Translator to Government.

Report on Malayalam Newspapers for the Month of September 1878.

Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka, 16th September.—The letters in the correspondence columns are on unimportant subjects.

2. The leading article headed "Certain Missionaries and their Servants" states that the report of some of the instances of harsh treatment to which some of the Protestant Missionaries of Travancore subject their subordinates is such as will cause one to doubt whether the savage proceedings of the zealous leaders of the old Spanish Inquisition ever equalled them in fury; that such severities in Cochin and Travancore, where "Oh! he is a European, hold your tongue" is a general talk, are no rarities; that this paper has often brought such perpetrations to notice; that information has been received that a teacher employed in a parish near Kottayam was first suspended and subsequently dismissed because his younger brother married a Syrian and the marriage ceremony was solemnized in a Syrian Chapel; that numerous instances present themselves to the view where husbands taking to themselves wives belonging to a dissident sect do not thereby incur the loss of their appointments; that in the present instance it therefore passes our comprehension what inexpiable sin the elder brother has committed to merit such dismissal by his brother's marrying in this way; that the proceeding was perhaps taken for the purpose of appeasing the wrath which the imaginary sin of the younger brother's marriage has provoked, and that the case is one unprecedented in the country; asks which of the two practices is more iniquitous—a marriage of the kind referred to or the practice of the sons of Protestant Missionaries being permitted to marry Syrian daughters and to live in their houses observing Syrian habits; and warns the ecclesiastical authorities concerned against causing a schism or disquiet.

3. A correspondent from Honnaner reports the occurrence of a great landslip from a hill and the death of a family whose house was buried beneath the earth that slipped from the hill side.

4. A paragraph from Alapazhe impugns the fitness, honesty, and justice of the Sub-Magistrates of Travancore in general and of those of the northern division in particular, and states that their existence is a nuisance and no security from disturbance.

5. A letter from Mavalikara bitterly complains of the reprehensible conduct of the Police Naik, who invariably indulges himself in obscene and opprobrious language.

6. Some space is taked up by a list of the principal incidents of the struggle between the Russians and Turks.

7. Among the miscellaneous items are paragraphs about the personalities that have passed between Lord Beaconsfield and Mr. Gladstone, the wonderful Sanskrit proficiency of a Maharatta lady, &c., &c.

MADRAS,
24*th September* 1878.

(Signed) E. THOMPSON,
Malayalam Translator to Government.

Report on Hindustani Newspapers examined during the Month of September 1878.

Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi, 20th September.—The general feeling with regard to our relation between Afghanistan and ourselves, as indicated by the Native Press, is one of apprehension as to the effect on this country if Russia were to succeed in her attempt to establish a footing in India, and it would appear that the Amir is generally supposed to be under Russian influence.

2. List of Hindustani newspapers examined during the month of September 1878:—

Shams-ul-Akhbar, 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th.
Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi, 10th, 20th, and 30th.
Jarida-i-Rozgar, 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th.
Tilism-i-Hairat, 5th and 15th.
Mazhar-ul-Akhbar, 10th, 20th, and 30th.
Safir-i-Madras, 7th, 17th, and 27th.

CHEPAUK,
8th October 1878.

(Signed) C. D. BAYNES, Major,
Persian and Hindustani Translator to Government.

No. 1595-A.

Copy forwarded to the Under-Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India in the Departments noted below, and to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy :—

Home.
Foreign.
Financial.
Public Works.
Military.
Legislative.
Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
29th October 1878.

C. G. MASTER,
Acting Chief Secretary.

CONFIDENTIAL.

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 5th October 1878.

The *Vetticodeyon* of the 28th September complains of the badness and narrowness of the following roads in Black Town:—

The road over the Elephant gate bridge leading to the Salt Cottar.
The Mannarsawmy Covil Street leading to the Cutwall bazaar.
The roads and lanes round about the grain markets near the beach.

2. The Editor of the above paper also complains that putrid fruit and unwholesome hoppers, cakes, &c., are sold in every nook and corner of the streets and by the sides of the drains and sewers. If such sales are not suppressed, diseases will become more and more prevalent. The Editor finally states his opinion that, if the Municipality refuse to grant licenses for broken jutkas and jaded ponies, the work of the Society for prosecuting Cruelty to Animals will be diminished, and the people will enjoy greater comfort than at present.

3. The *Salem Suthasabhimani* of the 1st October. The Editor calls upon the Collector (of Salem) to provide a burning ground for the people to bury their dead in, as the Mitadar of Salem has sold the old burning ground, and the present possessor will not allow dead bodies to be brought into his lands, which he has fenced round about.

4. Under the head of Local News, the Editor observes that many complain that the Police peons in Shevapett get drunk, beat the poor, and take bribes from the cart-drivers coming to the markets. The Superintendents and Inspectors of Police must be called blind men if they leave them unpunished.

5. Papers received and examined during the week under report:—

The *Dinavartamani* (Madras), of the 28th September.
The *Vetticodeyon* (Do.) do. do.
The *Abhimani* (Tavancore), of the 1st October.
The *Suthiavartamani* (Pasumalai) do.
The *Suthasabhimani* (Salem) do.
The *Yatharthavasani* (Madras), of the 2nd October.

MADRAS,
12th October 1878.

(Signed) T. WEIR,
Ag. Tamil Translator to Government.

Report on Telugu Newspapers for the Month of October 1878.

During this month were received the following Telugu papers:—

The Vartalahari, 1st October 1878.
The Vivekavardhani, September 1878.

The first paper contains nothing of importance. The Editor of the *Vivekavardhani* in an English article states that "Messrs. Subrahmanya Ayer, B.A., and Ch. Yaggnannah Sastri Garu, F.A., are no doubt fit persons to sit on the Commission, but the rest of the addenda to the Municipal Commission (of the town of

Rajahmundry) is a great blunder." He suggests that the "appointments had better be made by election by a certain class or classes of people than be guided by the whims and fancies of the Collector or his subordinates."

2. In another column the Editor complains that "District Moonsiffs are in certain cases allowed to continue in one place for decades of years to the prejudice of justice." He thinks that "every man, especially one in high office and hence of influence, when allowed to continue at one place for a number of years, is sure to form connections with the residents, and that the Moonsiffs do not generally avoid being biassed in favor of one party or the other."

3. The Editor in a Telugu article, under the head of "Conservancy of the Town," states that the roads in the town of Rajahmundry were in a better condition when there was no Municipal Board. They are now in bad repair, badly cleaned, and badly lighted. The Commissioners ought to undertake the direct management of the scavenging and lighting, instead of giving it out by contract. A great saving will thereby be effected.

4. Memorandum of Newspapers examined during the month of October 1878:—

Vartalahari.—Estimated Circulation, No. 175.
Vivekavardhani. *Do.* ,, 300.

MADRAS,
6th November 1878.

(Signed) GUSTAV OPPERT,
Telugu Translator to Government.

Report on Malayalam Newspapers for the Month of October 1878.

Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka, 1st October.—A correspondent states thus:—The Travancore Government has become alive to the ravages of locusts and small-pox, and circular orders have issued. The dreadful consequences of the severe famine now prevailing throughout the province are indescribable. A great majority of the people have begun to eat leaves, reeds or stalks, and other uneatable parts of vegetables. The rise in the price of salt renders the people unable to mix that condiment with what they may have to eat. Many have become emaciated and mere skeletons; parental and other natural affections and sympathies are losing their force; weights and measures are fraudulently tampered with; shameless deceitful practices take place in respect of records and title-deeds; Justice, Equity, Truth, and Good have vanished; Wisdom and Knowledge are paralysed. The crops of the season were good until the time of maturity, when they were attacked by the locusts, and the cultivators are now perplexed and confounded.

2. Another letter complains of the want of proper markets at Chengannur and its vicinity in Travancore and the consequent inconveniences; hopes that the local authorities will soon see the necessity of opening markets at some convenient spots where their existence may not prove a nuisance to the higher classes of the community; requests the establishment of an hospital and an additional Munsif's Court, the conversion of one of the two existing schools into a girls' school, where needle-work and music are to be taught in addition to all other lessons, and the construction or repair of certain roads; and regrets the damage the Kanni crops have sustained from locusts.

3. The leading article is upon "The Cabul Mission" and is evidently translated from the *Western Star.*

4. Another article, which occupies four columns, is upon the Administration Report of Travancore for 1876-77. This appears to be also a translation from the *Western Star.*

5. A paragraph says—The abode of sin is the bosom of the wicked. Seeing that famine has been abating, the greedy cultivators, specially of Palghaut, who have grain to sell, earnestly pray to God for the continuance of the famine.

6. Another paragraph suggests the desirability of officials of the Mattancheri Tahsildar's stamp being forthwith pensioned, because, it says, cholera is raging all

about the taluq; but the Tahsildar remains quite apathetic. The writer wishes the Dewan would cause to be done what is necessary to purify the contaminated atmosphere.

7. Says a third paragraph—We learn that in Madras 180,000 sacks of rice, having become unfit for human consumption, were destroyed last year. Many of the traders of British Cochin and Mattancheri happened to possess last year numerous bales of damaged rice, none of which were destroyed. The number of victims carried away by cholera at Narakal and other neighbourhoods is therefore no matter of surprise. We solicit the attention of the Sirkar to this circumstance, but we fear that our solicitation will hardly be successful.

8. Referring to the remarks of the Madras *Mail*, whose assessment under the License Tax Act has equalled that of the Madras Bank or Arbuthnot and Co., a fourth paragraph states that the *Star* is assessed at 50 Rupees and the other Presses of British Cochin 25 Rupees each, and says, "Who have thus settled the assessment of Cochin, we shall be happy to understand, for no sooner was the order for the enforcement of the Act issued than the Vice-President and the principal Commissioners of the Cochin Municipality sent in their resignations, and none in their stead have been appointed. Are these assessments then at the discretion of the clerks of the Municipality?"

9. *Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka*, 15*th October*.—The first letter refers to the discussion that has arisen with respect to the revision of the Malayalam versions of the Bible.

10. The second letter is an answer to some letters in some previous issues regarding certain seceders from the Syrian Church and their subsequent perversion from the Protestant Church.

11. Referring to the statement of Chief Engineer Barton in the late Administration Report of Travancore, to the effect that every road in the State has been very creditably maintained, the leading article discusses the existing condition of the public roads between Asambu and Trevandram and between Trevandram and Tinnevelly, and states that the repeated reports received of the wretchednes of the roads have vexed the Editor, and he hastens to announce his information that the marshiness and muddiness, as well as the dilapidated state of bridges, have rendered the roads impassable. This appears to be a translation from the *Western Star*.

12. A paragraph says that the Examiners on Agriculture have discovered that the frequent appearance of famine in this country is not solely owing to the want of rain; that a comparative examination of the produce of an acre of land in this country and that of the same amount of land in any other country has shown that this country is the least productive, and three reasons have been assigned for the defect, viz., (1) superficial ploughing, (2) the utter grazing of pastures, and (3) calcining rubbish and such other manures which ought to be let alone to fertilize the soil; that the inhabitants have not yet learnt that destruction of jungles is detrimental to cultivation; that the extent 1,726,000 square miles of Europe without Russia contains a population of 226,513,000 people; that the area of Hindustan is 1,553,226 square miles and its population 240,000,000; that though there is not much difference in the extent or populations, what a difference exists in the productive capabilities of the soils of the two countries! that Europe not only yields enough grain for the maintenance of her inhabitants, but she also produces the clothing and fuel requisite for them; that they require food, raiment, and fuel four times as much as the people of this country; that it is a fallacy to suppose that exports from other countries supply the people of Europe with their comforts; and that the British Government, having observed these facts, has resolved to introduce the use of European implements of agriculture here.

13. Another paragraph mentions that in the neighbourhood of the Cochin town cholera and small-pox are raging; that the virulence of these epidemics has thrown the people into a panic; and that the Roman Catholic portion of the community has resorted to the prayers and solemnities of the spring (Lent?).

14. A third paragraph states that the extent of Malabar justifies the notion that the proposed division of the district into two Collectorates should have been

a fact accomplished long ago; that one Judge having been found unable to look after the criminal administration of the whole country, a District Court has been established in North Malabar, and that a similar arrangement in the revenue administration will conduce to the convenience, not only of the public, but also of the officials concerned.

15. A paragraph from Palghaut intimates that the crop of the season is very good and that plenty would have reigned but for the exportations to the east, and mentions that a sort of fever and dysentery prevails, which is to be ascribed to the want of cleanliness.

16. Another paragraph from the same place observes that education is no doubt making progress in Malabar; that many candidates from Palghaut went up for the last Special Test Examinations; that now there are thirty-three candidates from the Zillah School for the Matriculation, and two or three for the Fourth Grade Teacher's Certificate Examinations; that thirty-two pupils from the Normal Class have registered their names for the Fifth Grade; that these numbers are irrespective of those from Calicut, Tellicherry, Cannanore, and Cochin; and that this rate of progress must within a few years hence render the district one noted for its civilization. The writer would nevertheless exhort the candidates and pupils not to part with their books, even though they may succeed in passing their examinations, as a little knowledge is a cause of danger.

MADRAS, (Signed) E. THOMPSON,
22nd October 1878. *Malayalum Translator to Government.*

Report on Hindustani Newspapers examined during the Month of October 1878.

Shams-ul-Akhbar, 21*st October*.—States that the Government of India appear to be in a great dread of the natives of this country caused by the present state of affairs on the frontiers of Afghanistan. They have therefore issued an order to dispense with the services of Native engine-drivers and guards employed on the railway line beyond Allahabad by substituting Europeans in their place.

2. *Shams-ul-Akhbar*, 28*th October*.—This issue contains translation of articles published in English Newspapers relative to the opinion of the Russian Press as regards the Afghan question.

3. *Jarida-i-Rozgar*, 28*th October*.—Inserts an article from the Dabdubai Khisuri, a northern paper, exhorting the Amir in strong terms to lend his ears to the good advice of the British Government, and warns him of the consequences that will result in his depending upon Russia for help.

4. *Jarida-i-Rozgar*, 19*th October*.—After inserting a translation of the article which appeared in the *Pall Mall Gazette* relative to the Indian Mussulmans and the Afghans, states that the Mussulmans of India cannot entertain any good opinion of the Amir, since he has disregarded the Embassy of the Leader of the Faith in the late Russo-Turkish war, and who could own him as a friend when he has proved himself an enemy to the Sublime Porte?

5. *Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi*, 20*th October*.—Writes an article of some length relative to the present crisis in Afghanistan, in which he states that the Amir was forced to form an alliance with Russia owing to the indifference of the British Government, and points out that the Amir in 1872 brought to the notice of the authorities Russsian progress in Central Asia, and solicited their interference in checking the same, when it was represented to him that it was not deemed expedient to fall out with so powerful an Empire, and that the Amir was induced to remain upon amicable terms with that Power. This was an error of judgment on the part of the British Government which has now resulted in the present altered tone of the Amir. The writer assures that when the Amir lost all hopes of receiving help from the British Government to expel Russians from Central Asia he fell into their hands in a state of utter despair. Had the Government adopted precautionary measures, and, disbelieving the professions of perfidious Russia, assisted the Amir in eradicating them from Central Asia, the present difficulties would have been obviated.

The Editor in conclusion regrets to observe that our authorities have been taken in by not foreseeing the real object of Russia by her conquests in Central Asia and elsewhere. It is the Russians that deserve a good thrashing and not the poor Amir, who is forced by circumstances to yield to their authority.

6. *Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi*, 31*st October*.—States that in the present affair in Affghanistan it is strongly expected that the Czar will fail in his object, and that his money will not prevail with the faithful soldiers of England, who would in the case of any such offer being made to them kick the person making it. The Amir will likewise have to regret his folly. In fact, the fulfilment of the treaty of Berlin will now be effected by the settlement of present affairs in Afghanistan.

7. List of Hindustani newspapers examined during the month of October 1878:—

Shams-ul-Akhbar, of 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th.
Jarida-i-Rozgar, of 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th.
Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi, of 10th, 20th, and 31st.
Tilism-i-Hairat, of 5th and 15th.
Mazhar-ul-Akhbar, of 10th, 20th, and 31st.
Safir-i-Madras, of 7th, 17th, and 27th.

(Signed) C. D. BAYNES, Major,
Persian and Hindustani Translator to Government.

No. 1729.

Copy forwarded to the Under-Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India in the Departments noted below, and to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy :—

Home.
Foreign.
Financial.
Public Works.
Military.
Legislative.
Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
29*th October* 1878.

C. G. MASTER,
Acting Chief Secretary.

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORTS ON NATIVE PAPERS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 2nd November 1878.

The *Vettycodiyon* of the 26th October.—Under the head of "Local News," the Editor complains that the bazaar men in the Mannady and the Parcherry Bazaar Roads and other places use lights which dazzle the sight of the passers by. The Municipality should inquire into this.

2. The *Yatharthavasani* of the 30th October.—In the column of "Local News" it is said that many complain that the carriages of the South Indian Railway are not regularly lighted, and the passengers are obliged to sit in the dark. The Editor suggests for the information of the Railway Company that darkness will favor theft.

3. The Editor of the same paper observes that the names of the streets painted upon the boards are very curiously spelt, and asks how will the postal letters be delivered if *Mariathasu* be changed into *Maniathasu* and afterwards into *Marithasu?* The board put up in Errabalu Chetty Street will itself show the way in which the name of that street is spelt. These may be the errors of the Moochees, but it is the duty of the Municipal Office to correct them.

4. The East Indian workmen going to the Perambore Railway Workshops by the train sit in the carriages of the (native) passengers, although separate carriages are allotted for them. If the passengers remonstrate, they pick groundless quarrels with them. They in the same manner annoy also the natives working with them in the workshops. We have written all this, says the Editor, so that the Madras Railway Company may take note of it.

5. Papers received and examined during the week under report:—

The *Dinavartamani* (Madras), of the 26th October.
The *Vettycodiyon* (do.), do. do.
The *Yatharthavasani* (do.), do. 30th do.

(Signed) T. WEIR,
Acting Tamil Translator to Government.

MADRAS,
6th November 1878.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 23rd November 1878.

The Editor of the Salem *Suthasabhimani* of the 15th November says that there is not one person in Salem who does not regret the appointment for the second time of Mr. J. W. Johnston as Vice-President of the Salem Municipality. The Editor has also published two letters from his correspondents upon the same subject. In the letters it is stated that Mr. Johnston has no consideration whatever for the poorer class, and that at the commencement of the famine the people suffered very much at his hands. It is also stated that on a former occasion some

of the people in Salem petitioned the Government of Madras to have him removed from their district. The Editor, in conclusion, suggests that, if Mr. Johnston will avail himself of the present opportunity (when all the people are against him) to resign his appointment, he may find a way to ingratiate himself with the people.

2. A correspondent of the above paper writes to say that, instead of the Collector, Deputy Collector, and Tahsildars, who alone are empowered by Government to make out classifications of persons liable to pay the license-tax (in Salem), certain other persons have been appointed to perform this duty, and they have made their own classifications (without giving proper attention to the nature of the cases before them).

3. The *Yatharthavasani* of the 20th November says that certain blackguards annoy the people in Bimana Moodelly's Lane and Neela Ponnupillay Street (near Chinnakadai Bazaar). It is reported that they are six in number, and keep a gymnasium. One of the six was sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment, and if the others too are made to share the like fate the people will enjoy peace and security. The Editor also takes objection to gymnasiums being established in inhabited localities (streets).

4. Papers received and examined during the week under report :—

The *Thathuvavicharini* (Madras), of the 3rd November.
,, *Do.* (do.), of the 10th do.
,, *Do.* (do.), of the 17th do.
,, *Suthasabhimani* (Salem), of the 15th do.
,, *Sathiavarthamani* (Pasumalai), of the 15th do.
,, *Dinavartamani* (Madras), of the 16th do.
,, *Vettycodiyon* (do.), do. do.
,, *Yatharthavasani* (do.), of the 20th do.
,, *Abhimani* (Travancore), of the do. do.

(Signed) T. WEIR,
Acting Tamil Translator to Government.

MADRAS,
27th November 1878.

Report on Telugu Newspapers for the Month of November 1878.

During this month were received the following Telugu papers :—

The *Vivekavardhani*, October 1878, and
The *Vartalahari*, 17th October and 2nd November 1878.

The latter paper contains nothing of importance.

2. A correspondent of the *Vivekavardhani*, signing himself Nyayarthi, or Lover of Justice, complains that some Gumastas in certain District Munsiff Courts are unable to read and to write, and that much difficulty is experienced in obtaining efficient substitutes when a competent man is on leave. The District Munsiffs do not make proper arrangements for the management of the Court business. The examination of the public copies is entrusted to one clerk alone, and not by rotation to all, so that not all the clerks participate in the emoluments.

3. Memorandum of newspapers examined during the month of November 1878 :—

Vivekavardhani.—Estimated Circulation, No. 300.
Vartalahari.— Do. ,, 175.

(Signed) GUSTAV OPPERT,
Telugu Translator to Government.

MADRAS,
7th December 1878.

Report on Malayalam Newspapers for the Month of November 1878.

Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka, 1st November.—The first letter is from a timber merchant and complains that the Forest Department of Travancore sometimes unreasonably curtails the period allowed for the removal of logs of timber felled from the Sirkar forests, and requests the Dewan's attention to the matter.

2. The second letter mentions the movements and proceedings of the Travancore Dewan on his late circuit and his reception at Killiyur, &c., and gives the substance of a congratulatory address presented to him by certain persons there.

3. A "Toda Volunteer" writes in substance as follows:—The Nilgiri District is a cold region, upwards of eight thousand feet high from the sea. Europeans have improved and rendered it a sanitarium; daily arrivals at and departures from this salubrious station are numerous; and there are also many permanent residents. A commissionership was instituted in 1868. Portions of the adjacent districts have been added to this new district, and Coorg will form part of it when the Maharája commences to rule over Mysore. The old inhabitants of the Hills say that the coldness of the place has diminished; the thick and wild jungles of former days having been cleared, and houses having sprung up, the aspect of the foggy air and cloudy skies has changed. The wild and rude inhabitants, who are emigrant refugees from other parts of India or Asia, comprise five classes known as Todas, Badagas, Kontars (Kotas ?), Kurumbars, and Irulars, whose appearance, language, and manners are objects of curiosity to spectators. They excite greater amusement than the wild Kuravars, Kurichiyars, Panizars, &c., of the Western Coast; and particularly the Todas are special curiosities both to Europeans and Natives. They are generally quiet and harmless. An old Badaga Chief who completed his 90th year recently died; he was a village officer and a nominal member of the Local Fund Board, and received a certificate and some garlands of flowers on the Imperial Proclamation day. Some people derive Ootacamund from Ottukal-mund or single stone village of the old Todas; while certain others assert that when the Farangi (or Frank) first came here and applied for a spot, this was pointed out by some words like "oh take that mund," which the Toda imitated the speaker in pronouncing, and so the slightly modified expression "Ootacamund" came into use. The other principal stations on the Hills are Coonoor, Kottagiri, Wellington, &c. A military orphanage, called the Lawrence Asylum in memory of Lord Lawrence, has been established with a view to save the souls of the orphans from perishing like the body. The Nilgiris produce coffee, tea, wheat, barley, raggi, chama, maize, mustard, onions, fenugreek, poppies, and potatoes. The famine has not yet abated. European, American, and Australian vegetables grow here luxuriantly. There are two or three cinchona gardens belonging to Government. The Nilgiris also receive a somewhat moderate quantity of the heavy showers of rain falling on the Western Coast; but the wind is inexpressibly violent. About two hundred men have joined a volunteer corpse (*sic*).

4. The leading article is on the Cabul Mission, and appears to be a translation from the *Western Star*.

5. With reference to the circumstance of the predecessors of the present Dewan of Travancore having been natives of other countries, to the satisfaction experienced at his deserved elevation to his high office, and to the gratitude and loyalty to which the Maharaja is entitled, another article mentions a report that some Sub-Magistrates, or other similar subordinates claiming relationship or friendship with the Dewan, have commenced to oppress and harass the poor, helpless inhabitants, and entreats the Dewan to take notice of this with a view to repressing speedily all vexatious practices on the part of the crafty officials.

6. A paragraph states that a Scotchman has found by computation that the Bible contains 31,000 divine promises.

7. Another paragraph.—The six years' people have adopted a new rule which is to levy a tithe from the followers of their theory; and a Shroff has been appointed, who is a younger brother of Justus. By the end of the six years all the wealthy followers will probably become beggars and all its leaders wealthy.

8. A third paragraph.—A Sub-Magistrate, named Kesava Pilla, has been sentenced to nine months' rigorous imprisonment and 200 Rupees fine by the Sudr Court of Travancore for bribery, and we hope that all bribe-receiving officials of the State will take a lesson from the misfortune of their compeer.

9. A fourth paragraph.—Some funny individual had prophesied that on the 26th September last, at 7 P.M., a fearful gale and a rise of six feet of water would take place in Cochin, and a few ignorant people prepared to betake themselves to elevated places. When a fear of the calamity predicted was agitating their minds a very strong wind and a heavy downpour of rain, attended with some flashes of lightning and slight peals of thunder, occurred on that day, which tended to increase the fear about the foretold disaster, but the high wave did not rise. That thieves and robbers advantageously availed themselves of the opportunity is no matter of surprise.

10. From Calicut and Vadakara there are paragraphs complaining of the excessive rain falling there and the consequent interruption to shipping and cultivation.

11. Another paragraph from Vadakara says that C. Gopalan Nayar, the present District Munsif, has within the last six months cleared off all the arrears of work, improved the shape and enlarged the size of the Court-house, though the Kuttipuram Raja, the owner, at whose expense the improvements have been effected, receives no higher rent, and regrets that the subordinates of this as well as all other Munsifs' Courts have as yet had no increase in their salary, though a proposal to that effect has been pending for a very long time.

12. *Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka*, *15th November*.—A letter, very elaborately drawn up and occupying three-and-a-half columns, discusses the various contrary and clashing statements that have already appeared, animadverting upon the secession and perversion of certain Syrian and Protestant renegades and denouncing the capricious proceedings of some missionaries or priests in connexion with the apostacy of their converts or followers.

13. The leading article regrets, and enumerates the inconveniences arising from, the want of employes acquainted with English at a few public offices in Travancore, gives instances of actual and hypothetical cases of vexation, and requests the Dewan to institute an English Department in every public office of the State.

14. Another article describes the disposition of the estate of the Parai, the most prominent Syrian family in the Principalities of Travancore and Cochin, their present domestic quarrels, with the circumstances contributing to them; calls attention to the unjust proceedings of the Arukutti Sub-Magistrate in the case of a trespass and robbery committed in respect of a portion of the estate by certain members of the family; reprehends and instructs the Sub-Magistrate; frames an issue for decision in the case; protests the correctness of the points exhibited therein; and challenges contradiction.

15. A paragraph from Vettathunad says that the majority of cultivators in the Ponnani Taluq have nothing but water to feed them, the excessive rain that has fallen having so utterly injured and damaged their Kanni or first crop, and that small-pox is bringing Vettathunad to the level of the ground, that is to say, it is carrying off all, and leaving none behind to undo or impair the evenness of the surface of the ground.

16. A Cannanore paragraph runs thus:—Rain is abundant. Public health is very good. No epidemic has broken out. Pastures are rich and cattle well off. The late crop has greatly suffered from incessant and excessive rain. There is no sign that it has yet ceased. The increase of rain-fall has only served to augment the famine. The present popular distress is severer than last year's. As rice rises in price, every other article is enhanced in value. Though a military station and a fine port, Cannanore is far behind Calicut or Vadakara both in trade and wealth. There can be no doubt that Cannanore is both poor and contains the largest number of the poor—a fact well known to Government. Yet from many circumstances the

Government appears, or the people incline themselves to believe it, to be taking measures calculated to harass the people and aggravate the severities of the famine. It is obvious that famines are consequences of the proceedings of Government. It ruins the inhabitants by imposing multifarious taxes and cesses. To add to the distress, which is worse than last year's, a license-tax has been introduced in addition to the heavy municipal taxes on professions and trades, which are assessed without any regard to the circumstances of the traders or the state of their business. These taxes, unlike the land revenue, are forcibly or extortionately levied then and there. The imposition of such taxes upon trade is an indirect mode of oppressing the poor. The traders will fix their prices according to the increase of tax they have to pay. Can it be said that the Government is no party to the misery thus caused? A nazhi (or one-fourth of a padi, a common measure) of salt used to sell at 3, 4, or 5 pies. The present price is 1 anna, and so salt is now more valuable than rice. In India, salt is one of the indispensable necessaries of life. It is a fact patent to all alike that the Government has caused this increase of its price. Consulting its own revenue, the Government, levying a duty of Rupees 1½ (*sic*) per maund, has let the merchants sell the salt, and suppressed the manufacture of earth salt, the production of which was a source of livelihood for a great many poor souls. The Government has passed an enactment in the matter, the enforcement of which is an affliction to the people, as they are oppressed thereby. There are still many other acts of oppression on the part of the administrators of the country to be recited. Their gross inattention to the welfare of the people, and their refusal to listen to representations one may venture to make, mortify the people, whose pain carries itself to God. Their contentment with the Government is decreasing every day, and worthy sages affirm that all these things are harbingers of evil.

MADRAS,
21st *November* 1878.

(Signed) EDMUND THOMPSON,
Malayalam Translator to Government.

Report upon Hindustani Newspapers examined during the Month of November 1878.

Shams-ul-Akhbar, 11*th November*.—With reference to a report received by telegram that the Czar intends to depute an Agent to Bombay, states that in his opinion the British authorities will yield to his request in consequence of the international relationship which now exists between the two powers, and that the Czar has devised this plan simply with the view of being kept informed with Indian affairs.

2. *Jarida-i-Rozgar*, 2*nd November*.—Refutes in strong terms the opinion of the *Bombay Gazette* as regards the Wahabies and dependants of the Akhund of Sawat sympathising with the Amir and making a "Jehad," or religious war, and states that the Amir of Cabul is not regarded as a Defender of the Faith of Islam, the Porte alone being recognised as such, he being in charge of the sacred places, such as Mecca and Medina, &c. Strongly censures the Amir for not listening to the good advice of the Sublime Porte given him under the present crisis.

3. The above issue contains a note to the effect that the whole Mahomedan population of India detests the very name of the Russians, and they being four crores and fifty lakhs in number are strong enough to beat the Russians or any foreign invaders on behalf of their benevolent rulers.

4. *Jarida-i-Rozgar*, 16*th November*.—"The Amir, frightened at a shadow, has fallen into the clutches of the Devil," *i.e.*, out of the frying pan into fire. Writes a long article under the above head condemning the Amir most strongly for the altered tone he has assumed against the English, and warns him of the precipice on which he stands and the eventual consequences which will result by his blind policy of having reliance in his professed friends the Russians.

5. *Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi*, 10*th November*.—This issue contains a long article of more than eight columns enumerating past events between the Amir and the English, and regrets to observe that the latter power had shut their eyes as to

the progress made by the ever-intriguing Russians in Central Asia during the last fourteen years, and presumes to say that, had it not been the aim of the Russians to possess India, they would never have carried their arms so far distant from their native land, and winds up the article by advising the Amir to come to his senses.

6. This paper and the two following issues severely censure the Amir for the ingratitude evinced by him towards his benefactors, and state that his conduct has cast a reflection upon his being a true follower of the faith he professes. Remarks, after inserting a precis translation of the Porte's letter to the Amir, that if Mr. Gladstone's policy had not been adopted by Lord Northbrook in 1873, and if a treaty been concluded with the Amir guaranteeing him British protection against the Russian aggression as requested by him, the present complication would have been obviated. Calls Mr. Gladstone an evil wisher of the British Government and one entirely devoted to the Russian cause and the creator of endless mischief both in European and Asiatic affairs affecting the interests of the Government of his own country. Recommends his banishment from England, and, quoting an expression made use of by him when speaking of the Turks says, "Let Mr. Gladstone go bag and baggage from England."

7. *Safir-i-Madras, 7th November.*—Criticises the order of Government directing that Mahomedan officials in Government employ drawing Rupees 200 per mensem should be addressed as "Sahib Bahadur," arguing that the word "Bahadur," after "Sahib" is superfluous, and observes sarcastically that it has, perhaps, been adopted to draw a distinction between the Bahadurs of the Carnatic family and the other Government Bahadurs. Recommends the adoption of the expression of "Fazilat Maab," the Excellent, in lieu of Bahadur, and "Shink at Maab," the Dignified, in place of Esquire.

[*Translator's Note.*—The remarks made by the Editor are ridiculous.]

8. List of Hindustani newspapers examined during the month of November 1878:—

Shams-ul-Akhbar, of 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th.
Jarida-i-Rozgar, of 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th.
Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi, of 10th, 20th, and 30th.
Tilism-i-Hairat, of 5th, 15th, and 25th.
Safir-i-Madras, of 7th, 17th, and 27th.
Mazhar-ul-Akhbar, of 10th, 20th, and 30th.

(Signed) C. D. BAYNES, Major,
Persian and Hindustani Translator to Government.

MADRAS,
14*th December* 1878.

No. 1,859.

Copy forwarded to the Under-Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India in the Departments noted below, and to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy :—

Home.
Foreign.
Financial.
Public Works.
Military.
Legislative.
Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
24*th December* 1878.

C. G. MASTER,
Acting Chief Secretary.

CONFIDENTIAL.

REPORTS ON NATIVE PAPERS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 14th December 1878.

The Editor of the *Vettycodeyon* of the 7th December is of opinion that Government should issue orders to the effect that at the next Mohorrum festival no one that is not a Mahomedan should put on the disguises and mummery (usual on that occasion).

2. Papers received and examined during the week under report :—

The *Abhimani* (Travancore), of the 2nd December.
„ *Dinavartamani* (Madras), of the 7th do.
„ *Vettycodeyon* (do.), do. do.
„ *Thathuvavicharini* (do.), of the 8th do.
„ *Yatharthavasani* (do.), do. 11th do.

(Signed) T. WEIR,
Acting Tamil Translator to Government.

MADRAS,
18th December 1878.

Report on Tamil Newspapers for the Week ending 28th December 1878.

The *Yatharthavasani* of the 25th December.—The Editor asks, Why should the practice hitherto observed in the Post Office at Negapatam be put a stop to? The merchants and others used to send their servants in the morning to the Post Office to bring their letters coming by the 6 A.M. train to their station. This is done by them as the letters, if delivered by the Postal Peons, do not reach their hands till 8 A.M. The Editor states that the Postmaster at Negapatam now drives away the servants waiting for letters, and much delay is thereby occasioned. It would be well if the Postmaster-General enquired into this.

2. The municipal carts (in the Presidency Town) need attention. They who have made rules regarding the carts of others should keep their own in good condition.

3. Papers received and examined during the week under report :—

The *Vettycodeyon* (Madras), of the 21st December.
„ *Dinavartamani* (do.), do. do.
„ *Thathuvavicharini* (do.), of the 22nd do.
„ *Yatharthavasani* (do.), do. 25th do.

(Signed) T. WEIR,
Acting Tamil Translator to Government.

MADRAS,
8th January 1879.

Report on Telugu Newspapers for the Month of December 1878.

During this month were received the following Telugu papers :—

The *Purusharthapradaini*, August, September, and October 1878, and

The *Varthamanarathnakaram* (a new weekly paper), 1st November, 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th December 1878.

2. The five numbers of the latter paper contain nothing of importance.

3. The Editor of the *Purusharthapradaini*, October 1878, complains that the batta allowed for famine, which still prevails, has been stopped to all Government servants except to Policemen. The allowance granted to the latter is fixed according as their pay is between Rupees 6-8-0 up to 20 Rupees, or is 25 Rupees, at 1 Rupee or 5 Rupees a month respectively.

4. The complaint against gambling which is practiced in the town of Masulipatam is repeated. A similar complaint was mentioned previously in March 1878.

5. Memorandum of newspapers examined during the month of December 1878 :—

Purusharthapradaini.—Estimated Circulation, No. 206.
Varthamanarathnakaram.— Do. „ 206.

MADRAS,
7th *January* 1879.

(Signed) GUSTAV OPPERT,
Telugu Translator to Government.

Report on Malayalam Newspapers for the Month of December 1878.

Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka, 2nd December.—Translations of telegrams from London, Lahore, Calcutta, &c., fill up four columns.

2. The first letter complains that the writer who lately attended the Tellicherry Sessions Court as a spectator was much vexed at hearing the discourteous use of "ni" or "thou" by the interpreter (a young Pattar) when addressing himself, not only to the prisoners at the bar, but to the witnesses and assessors also. The writer believes that this is not the only place where such incivility is indulged in. Even supposing such rudeness to be tolerated in the case of the accused under trial, there can be nothing to justify its use as regards witnesses and assessors, who are often very respectable. This disregard of seniority of age and respectability on account of rank or dignity, the writer continues, is as reprehensible as it is in many instances dangerous, because it is calculated to cause a breach of the peace if the speaker is not sheltered under or by virtue of his official position. If the excuse for this be that the speaker is simply the mouth-piece of the sovereign, the writer will impugn such royal prerogative, since the duty of the sovereign is to protect, and not to violate, the privileges of his subjects. The writer thinks that the respectable Malayalis are perhaps too much used to the servile treatment of Courts to complain of any such impropriety. When the person speaking is an officer of some high caste, the use of "thou" to the addressee is not uncommon. But even this, says the writer, is intolerable, as the Government recognises no caste distinctions. Is it not advisable, the writer asks, that the Government should appoint some forms of address to be used by its officers to the parties and others in Courts?

3. The second letter is an answer to certain remarks in a letter which appeared in a late issue of the *Trumpet of Truth* with reference to the Amarapati Church or School.

4. The leading article appears to be a translation from the *Western Star* and refers to the Afghan war, which the Viceroy has been compelled to declare on the Amir's refusal to answer the ultimatum sent to him. It says that joyful have been the news received since the commencement of the war. From the nature of the forces, as well as the present situation of the Amir, and the preparations of the British Government, the Editor presumes that this war will not last as long as either the Russo-Turkish or Franco-Prussian war did, and that the undisciplined

barbarians who compose the Amir's army are no match for the English battalions led by well-experienced and distinguished veteran Officers. The Editor predicts the immediate triumphant return of the English Army, having squared the frontier question and placed some other Ali, in the room of Shir Ali, on the throne of Kabul. Upon conquest, whether Afghanistan will form part of British India, or whether a new ruler ready to play the sycophant will be installed is the only question respecting which the views of the Government are yet to be learnt.

5. The second article mentions the various reports and speculations to which the disappearance of the records of two cases relating to the big Kattayam Church from the local Sub-Magistrate's Office has given rise, holds the record-keeper responsible for their safe custody, and promises further comments or details pending the inquiry into the matter.

6. A paragraph from *Alapuzha* says that Mr. Rhode, the Acting Magistrate, Commercial Agent, and Jail Superintendent, is an efficient, honest, and diligent officer, and is likely to be a great check upon the officials, who, on Mr. Crawford's departure on leave, commenced to plunder the people.

7. An article headed "The Circuits of a Priest," and occupying two columns, eulogizes the proficiency and excellence of the Syrian Metropolitan Mar Gregory Joseph, who accompanied the Patriarch of Antioch on his visit to Malabar some two or three years ago, and who has hitherto been staying there; regrets his departure from the country; and hopes that he will be allowed to re-visit the country and reside some time more in Malabar.

8. *Paschima Taraka and Kerala Pataka, 16th December.*—Translations of telegrams fill up more than a page.

9. A "Lover of Appointments" writes a panegyric upon the ability, loyalty, and philanthropy of Dewan Sankunni Menon, Dewan Peshkar Sankara Ayyan, and the newly made Dewan Peshkar Mudhavan Ilayadu of Cochin, and promises further details regarding the Ilayadu.

10. A second letter is an answer to certain remarks about some examination improperly conducted in some Missionary schools in Travancore and Cochin.

11. A third letter is a complaint against false weights and measures used in the Ramapuram market in the Kollam or Quilon division of Travancore, and prays the local authorities to suppress such deceitful practices.

12. The leading article brings to notice the leaky and dilapidated condition of the municipal school building in British Cochin, as well as the efficiency of the present staff of teachers; expresses surprise at the reductions made in their salaries; advises the Municipal Commissioners to engage a good building or cause the necessary repairs to be made in the present school-house; states that the head-master had better consult the happiness of the parents of the pupils than the permanency of his own emoluments, which he may probably risk by suggesting any scheme for the improvement of the school building; and hopes that, as the present Commissioners are not entirely apathetic, the reasonable request to improve the building may not be wholly unacceptable to them, and that a happy era for the school may commence with the new year 1879.

13. A paragraph states that as the final Judgment Day is said to be known to the Father alone, and even the Son and Angels are quite in the dark about it, so the object of the Travancore Maharaja's visit to Madras is known to His Highness alone, neither the Dewan nor any other high officer having, according to the rumour, any knowledge of it.

14. Four paragraphs from Tellicherry respectively report the occurrence of a theft in the house of the Dresser for the local jail, the incarceration of the runaway merchant Kunhi Pakki in the civil jail, the imprisonment of Taitolettil Hussan Kutti, a wealthy Mopla merchant, for receiving stolen property, and the commutation of the capital sentence passed upon a Quilandi Mopla for having unintentionally caused the death of his wife by beating her.

15. A paragraph from Trevendram says that a Brahmin master of the local seminary has been fined Rupees 10 by the Town Sub-Magistrate for chastising a

Brahmin student, although Professor Ross testified to the fact that the chastisement was not so cruel as to justify a complaint before a criminal authority, and hopes that on appeal justice will be rendered to the convicted master and that his brother masters will take this as a lesson.

16. The rest of the contents consist of translated extracts from other papers and of matters requiring no notice.

MADRAS,
7th January 1879.

(Signed) EDMUND THOMPSON,
Malayalam Translator to Government.

Report upon Hindustani Newspapers examined during the Month of December 1878.

Shams-ul-Akhbar, 23rd December, inserts a translation of the "Jehad" Proclamation Call to a religious war (originally published in the *Indian Daily News*) as promulgated by the Amir of Cabul and delivered by the Chief Prelate to the congregation assembled in the principal mosque on the celebration of the Buckreed festival. It occupies four long columns. [*Translator's Note.*—The style of this proclamation is such as to render its circulation very undesirable if it had been an original production.]

2. *Safir-i-Madras, 27th December*, contains an article of some length, in which the writer, in language which he intends to be sarcastic but which is simply impertinent, criticises the action of Government in prohibiting correspondents of newspapers from furnishing news direct from the seat of war. The writer argues that as in 1857, when atrocities which he needlessly specifies were being committed, this restriction was not laid on the Press, although Government would have had an excuse then for so doing; therefore, there is no reason for doing so now. He attributes it to the feeling of uncertainty with which Government await the issue of the present struggle. Condemns the telegrams published by English newspapers as untrue because so contradictory, and urges that it is absurd to suppose that the Government could learn by telegrams the truth of events occurring in a place so distant as the seat of war when for weeks they could not obtain any reliable information regarding an inundation which destroyed human life and property to a large extent in close proximity to the seat of Government.

3. List of papers examined during the month of December 1878:—

Shams-ul-Akhbar, of 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th.
Jarida-i-Rozgar, of 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th.
Umdat-ul-Akhbar-i-Shahi, of 10th, 20th, and 30th.
Tilism-i-Hairat, of 5th, 15th, and 25th.
Safir-i-Madras, of 27th.
Mazhar-ul-Akhbar, of 10th, 20th, and 31st.

(Signed) C. D. BAYNES, Major,
Offg. Persian and Hindustani Translator to Government.

CHEPAUK,
18th January 1879.

No. 167.

Copy forwarded to the Under-Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India in the Departments noted below, and to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy:—

Home.
Foreign.
Financial.
Public Works.
Military.
Legislative.
Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
6th January 1879.

C. G. MASTER,
Acting Chief Secretary.